

HOME NEWS

Train drivers pledge help to striking air traffic assistants

By Christopher Thomas
Labour Reporter

Train drivers' leaders yesterday pledged full and active support for a lengthy strike by air traffic control assistants.

This week they will discuss ways of putting pressure on the Civil Aviation Authority.

One option bound to be considered is the blocking of fuel supplies to airports. Last week the Government ordered the RAF to cross a picket line to get fuel for generators for the West Drayton air traffic control computer near Heathrow.

The statement of support was issued by the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (Aslef) after talks between its general secretary, Mr Ray Buckton, and Mr Kenneth Thomas, general secretary of the Civil and Public Services Association (CPSA), the control assistants' union.

The meeting was arranged in accordance with an instruction to Mr Buckton by Aslef's executive committee, which is in session this week. An Aslef

spokesman said: "Mr Buckton will be reporting back to his executive with a view to positive forms of action being taken in order to assist in bringing the deadlock to an end."

Aslef and the other two railway unions are to meet British Railways Board officials tomorrow over a big pay claim. The board is arguing, however, that details cannot be discussed because nobody is able to attend from the National Union of Railwaymen.

Mr Clifford Rose, a member of the British Railways Board with responsibility for industrial relations, gave a warning yesterday that there was no longer an easy way of improving productivity on the railways.

He told the Railway Study Association that the phrase, "self-financing productivity deal" was another example of fallen standards. Any productivity deal on British Rail would have to improve the finances of the undertaking as well as of the workforce.

Scots 'will be forced to vote for separation'

By Our Political Staff

Taking a line that conflicts with the view of the Shadow Cabinet, Mr David Knox, Conservative MP for Leek, said in Liverpool last night that the devolution of executive and legislative power to Scotland "is the most urgent domestic political problem facing the United Kingdom."

In his most recent statement Mr Francis Pym, Opposition spokesman on devolution, said that the Conservatives proposed a consultative body without executive or legislative powers.

Mr Knox, advocating legislative devolution, said that in increasing numbers the Scots had shown clearly that they wanted a bigger say.

"But if the United Kingdom Parliament shows itself incapable of granting this to the Scottish people, they will draw the conclusion that... the only way to achieve their wishes is to vote for the Scottish National Party," he said.

"In other words, they will be forced to vote for a party advocating total separation from England."

Fewer academic posts for new graduates

By Our Education Correspondent

Economic stringency in higher education together with the small number of lecturers and professors at various ages meant that job opportunities for graduates in the academic field had almost disappeared, Mr Brian Putt, director of the Central Services Unit for universities and polytechnic careers and appointments services, said yesterday.

Ten years ago a student with a bachelor's degree in science or engineering had an even chance of obtaining his first university post, and those with an arts degree had an even

better chance, Mr Putt said. But vacant university posts were now almost non-existent, even for those with a doctorate.

There was an age "bulge" among people teaching in the universities. Many were between 35 and 50 years of age, which meant that only a few retired each year.

The sharp decline in the number of vacancies and the relative decline in the salaries paid to university lecturers had not reduced the attraction of the academic life to graduates, however. More than 100 applications could be expected for any post in the social sciences, he said.

Mr Putt made his remarks when introducing a new statistical supplement to the annual "grey book" on graduate employment information, published by the unit. It describes the jobs taken by students graduating in 1976, six months after leaving university.

Despite the deteriorating prospects for employment nationally, the supplement shows that unemployment among first-degree graduates in December, 1976, remained constant at 5.5 per cent, the same as in the previous December. But there was a distinct change in the pattern of employment. Far more graduates were going into

commerce, manufacturing and the law, and fewer into central or local government.

The report also shows that more women are attending university: 35 per cent of all new undergraduates are now female, compared with 30 per cent five years ago. There is also change in the type of jobs women take. More are going into medicine, dentistry and health care, as well as into business, administration and social work.

First Destination of Undergraduate Graduates, 1975-76 (Central Services Unit, Crawford House, Prentice Centre, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL: £2.50).

Guidance on inequality is sought

By Annabel Ferriman

Sex discrimination is not recognized by the education service and the Green Paper, *Education in Schools*, has done little to change that attitude, the Equal Opportunities Commission said yesterday.

Local education authorities should be asked to show what progress they had made in eliminating discrimination in their forthcoming curriculum review for the Department of Education and Science, it added.

The Commission was giving written evidence on the Green Paper, which recommended a review of the school curriculum, now being undertaken by all local education authorities.

It welcomed the review but regretted the paper's lack of guidance on how inequality should be tackled in schools.

It took issue particularly with the paper's statement that equal opportunity in the curriculum did not necessarily mean identical provision, and thought that might be used as an escape clause by authorities who had shown no initiative in changing the traditional curricular patterns for boys and girls.

"The commission does not accept, for example, that provision for cookery is equivalent to provision for metalwork," it said.

Some students may get improved awards

By Our Education Correspondent

Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, may take action to improve the educational allowances awarded to students who are not eligible for mandatory grants, it was disclosed yesterday.

She told a delegation from the Council for Educational Advance that she would soon be analysing the results of a survey of local education authority discretionary grants to see whether such action was possible. Many authorities have cut back on the number of discretionary awards or on the amount, or both.

Concern has been expressed in many quarters about the disparity in the awards granted to students in further education which will be widened when the Holland proposals are introduced. Under those proposals, a young person who has been unemployed for more than

six weeks may receive an allowance of £18 a week to take a job training course.

Mrs Williams gave another clear hint that she was losing her battle with local education authorities to introduce certain specific grants.

When the delegation urged her to introduce specific grants for further education, she replied that while she favoured earmarking funds for that purpose, she could hold out hope for nursery provision only as part of the inner cities programme.

On education standards generally, the council called for immediate action to take advantage of the falling school rolls to improve the pupil-teacher ratios.

In a statement issued after the meeting the council said that Mrs Williams had said she was aware that extra resources would have to be provided if educational standards were not to deteriorate as a result of the simple arithmetical approach to falling pupil rolls.

Decree for Lady Bute

Lady Bute, aged 41, of Albert Bridge Road, London, was granted a decree nisi in London yesterday on the ground that the marriage had broken down and she and her husband had lived apart for more than five years.

Closed shop to end

Humberston County Council's decision to end its closed shop agreement for 34,000 employees was announced yesterday.

After legal argument between Mr Brian and Mrs Kirby, Humberston, QC, for the Council, and Mr. Humberston, QC, for the Council, the agreement was introduced when the council was Labour-controlled.

Windscale air tests 'show no danger'

From a Special Correspondent
Whitehaven

The public inquiry at Whitehaven, in Cumbria, to consider whether an oxide nuclear fuel reprocessing plant should be built at Windscale, nearby is nearing its close.

On Wednesday the inquiry will adjourn to allow the many parties represented to prepare final submissions, which are expected to be made early next week. Evidence from the inquiry, which has been running for nearly five months, will be presented to Mr Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment, for a decision.

Before adjourning, Mr Justice Parker, the judge conducting the inquiry, is to visit the storage dump used by British

Nuclear Fuels Ltd at Drigg, near Whitehaven, for burying materials contaminated by low-level radioactivity at Windscale. Yesterday he invited representatives of the objectors to the expansion plan to accompany him on the visit.

Villagers at Ravensglass, near the Windscale atomic plant, were assured yesterday by the National Radiological Protection Board that tests of airborne radioactivity in their area showed no danger to public health.

Mr Kenneth Shaw, principal scientific officer at the Harwell laboratory and the board's representative at the inquiry, gave that assurance after a four-week survey of airborne plutonium and americium. He said different concentra-

tions were found but were not unexpected. They emphasized the need for prolonged observation at carefully selected sites to determine an annual dose estimate.

"No clear correlation with wind, weather or tidal conditions during the four-week period (August 26 to September 23) was observed," he added.

The results of the survey, which have been issued at regular intervals to the inquiry, show that concentrations of nuclides were higher at a northern site used in the survey, but were well below "the most restrictive maximum permissible concentration in air recommended by the International Commission on Radiological Protection."

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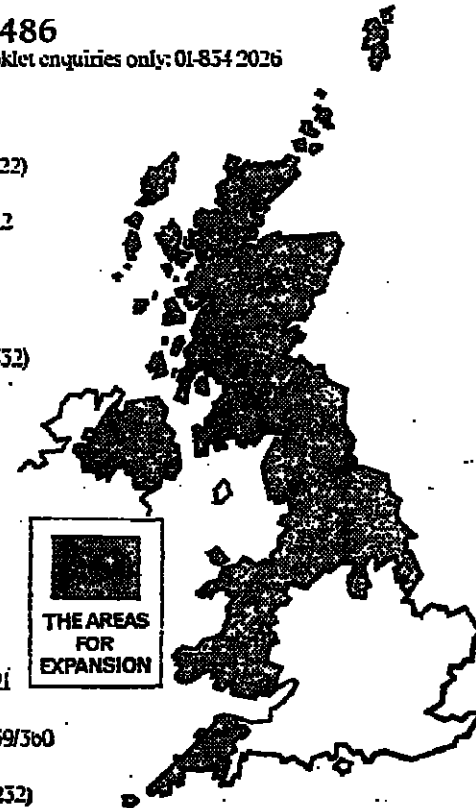
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In association with the Scottish Economic Planning Department and the Welsh Office.

An enigma within 'Enigma'

Continued from page 1

to Ultra information when more is available for analysis of the traffic over the preceding month.

Vice-Admiral Cilibex finally signalled the safe arrival of his ships at Wilhelmshaven on the morning of February 13, "Operation Cerberus" was over.

His message intercepted at Bletchley at 9.58 am on February 13, was broken and sent to the Admiralty at 1 am the next morning. It read: "Immediate. Report at once by W/T on success of operation 'Cerberus' for purpose of publication."

The conclusion to be drawn from a first glance at the Ultra papers is that they will not yield their secrets easily.

Mediculous and painstaking reconstruction of events from an unsorted jumble of telex messages will be necessary before history can be rewritten in the light of what has been called the "last great secret" of the Second World War.

As a distinguished former member of the Government Code and Cipher School, formerly based at Bletchley Park, Buckinghamshire, where the code was broken, commented yesterday: "It will remain an enigma within an Enigma if researchers do not know the context in which Ultra intelligence was used."

The first difficulty at the Public Record Office is sorting the wheat from the chaff. Exhortations to "stop sending dummy messages" and congratulations to U-boat seamen on the birth of sons are interspersed with messages containing vital intelligence.

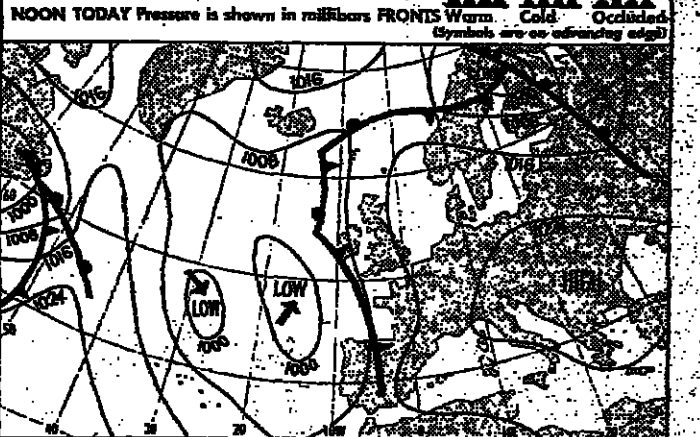
Another complication is the often haphazard way in which de-coded messages were sent down the wire from Bletchley Park to the intelligence directorates of the Armed Forces in Whitehall. On occasion Bletchley failed for several days to break the German codes, which were changed approximately every 24 hours at midnight.

The Enigma papers appear in the record office in the form of bundles bound together in the order they reached London. Life will be much easier for the historian when the official history of wartime intelligence is published, which, according to Whitehall sources, will be the context in which Ultra was analysed and used. Scholars will then be in a better position to know what they are looking for.

The two-volume history is being prepared by Professor H. Hinsley and Mr. Kirby, researchers in the Cabinet Office. All the Ultra material now in the process of declassification at Kew has been sifted by Professor Hinsley since the official history was begun in 1971.

Weather forecast and recordings

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars. FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded



Today

Sun rises: 7.29 am. Sun sets: 6.1 pm. Moon rises: 1.38 pm. Moon sets: 10.52 pm.

First quarter: Tomorrow. Lightning up: 6.31 pm to 7.1 am. High water: London Bridge, 6.8 am, 6.5m (22.7ft); 6.34 pm, 7.0m (22.8ft). Avonmouth, 11.44 am, 11.9m (39.0ft). Dover, 3.16 am, 6.4m (21.0ft); 3.48 pm, 6.2m (20.4ft). Bristol, 10.38 am, 7.0m (23.1ft); 10.55 pm, 6.5m (22.4ft). Liverpool, 3.30 am, 8.8m (28.9ft); 3.56 pm, 8.8m (28.9ft).

A SE airstream covers most parts, with a low trough approaching SW later.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight: London, East Angles, Midlands (E), SE and central S England: Fog thinning slowly, giving hazy sunshine in most places; wind SE, light; max temp 17°C (63°F).

Borders, E, central N and NE England, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow, central Highlands, Moray Firth: Fog thinning slowly, persisting in places; SE, light; max temp 12°C (54°F).

W Midlands: N Wales, Lake District, NW England, Isle of Man, SW Scotland: Fog patches clearing to give bright or sunny spells; wind SE, light or moderate; max temp 16°C (64°F).

Channel Islands: Mainly dry and bright; wind SE, moderate; max temp 18°C (64°F).

SW England, S Wales, N Ireland: Fog patches clearing to give bright or sunny spells; but rain later; wind SE, moderate or fresh; max temp 18°C (64°F).

Argyll, NW Scotland: Dry and bright; wind SE, moderate; max temp 12°C (54°F).

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Big cat nation seek bargain

By Alan Hamilton
Bargain Hunter

Big cat nation seek bargain. The TUC's authority to challenge the zoo's closure is being challenged by the zoo's management.

The report also shows that more women are attending university: 35 per cent of all new undergraduates are now female, compared with 30 per cent five years ago. There is also change in the type of jobs women take. More are going into medicine, dentistry and health care, as well as into business, administration and social work.

First Destination of Undergraduate Graduates, 1975-76 (Central Services Unit, Crawford House, Prentice Centre, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL: £2.50).

Mr Richard Burgess, aged 76, an estate agent of Broadbridge Mill, Bosham, Chichester, sued the two playwrights, both of Corridulla, Headfort, co. Galway, claiming damages over their play, *The Ballgame*, which he claims to be a character in the play, and it injured his credit and reputation as an estate agent.

The play concerns English absentee landlords in the Republic of Ireland and their treatment of occupants. Mr Burgess claims that the play is a character in the play, and it injured his credit and reputation as an estate agent.

Yesterday, Mr Leon Brittan, counsel for Mr Burgess, asked for the Ardens' defence of fair comment on a matter of public interest to be struck out.

After legal argument between Mr Brittan and Mr Kirby, Humberston, QC, for the Council, and Mr. Humberston, QC, for the Council, the agreement was introduced when the council was Labour-controlled.

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Journalists get strike plan

Provisional journalists' strike plan. The plan is to strike for a commitment to a new industrial contract, which would include a 10 per cent pay rise and a 10 per cent increase in the number of staff.

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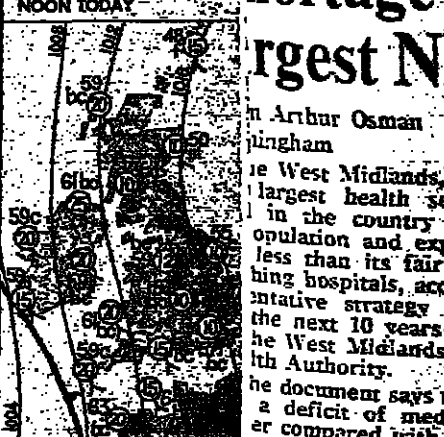
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ME NEWS

nion seeks
ridlington
junction
ainst TUC

Donald Macintyre
our Reporter

The TUC's authority to rule recruitment disputes between affiliated unions is challenged by the 45,000-
strong Engineering Employers' Association (EEA), which yesterday served a writ
in the High Court to prevent the
TUC from enforcing its rules.
The writ, which was served on
the TUC's headquarters at 1, Abchurch Lane, London, EC4N 3DF, was
served by Mr Justice Slade, who
said that the TUC's rules were
unlawful and that the TUC was
acting in breach of the law.
The writ was served on the TUC
by the EEA, which is a leading
employer of engineers and
technicians. The EEA has been
in dispute with the TUC for
some time over the TUC's
recruitment rules, which the
EEA claims are discriminatory
and unfair.

Geoffrey Boycott tells court of
Tony Greig telephone call

By John Hennessy
Sports Editor

Geoffrey Boycott, the England Test
cricketer, was rebuffed by Mr
Justice Slade before the
adjournment of the Packer case
in the High Court yesterday.
Evidence had been given by
Geoffrey Boycott, another Eng-
land player, that Mr Greig had
telephoned him to express
displeasure at the fact that Mr
Boycott had been called to give
evidence yesterday for the
defendants, the International
Cricket Conference and the Test
and County Cricket Board.
Mr Boycott said that Mr Greig
had asked him "How the hell
did you get involved in this?"
Mr Greig had said he had
gone away and work on the matter
over the weekend to "throw
some mud at you". Mr Boycott
thought it had been "charming".
He added: "That's what
friends are for."

The judge said that he had
said nothing because the
remarks seem to be of a jocular
variety, but I would point out
that if there were any attempt
to influence witnesses on either
side I would be bound to take
a very serious view.
Mr Robert Alexander, QC,
for the plaintiffs (Mr Kerry Packer
and three of his players, among them
Mr Greig) to talk the matter over
with Mr Greig.
Mr Boycott had said in evidence
that the Packer players could
not "have the penny and the
bun". There was nothing wrong
in going into other employment,
because for a long time the leading
players in the game had been
paid their worth. But the Packer
series was in direct conflict with
established cricket.

County cricket relied on Test
revenue if it was to keep solvent
and provide a breeding
ground for future Test players.
When they went to Australia
next winter the finances would
be split between two competing
series, the profits would be
down, and that would be no
help to county cricket. He de-
scribed the changes in rules,
applying a ban from October 1,
variously as "fair", "lenient",
and "over-reasonable".
He referred to the case of
Paul Downton, the reserve
Kent wicketkeeper, who was
been selected for the England
tour of Pakistan and New Zea-
land this winter. If Alan Knott
went to Australia for Mr Packer
and then came back to reclaim
his place in the Kent team, Mr
Downton would have to go into
the reserves. That would not
help English cricket.
Mr Boycott recalled how he
had been approached by Mr
Packer and one of his associ-
ates, Mr Austin Robinson,
during last winter in Australia.
He had been shown a copy of
the proposed contract, which
had been a "bod yand soul con-
tract, more on his side than my
side". They could dismiss a
player at a moment's notice at
the discretion of the manager.
He had been told that in certain
circumstances a Packer series
might be played in England
and that he would not then be
able to play for Yorkshire.
Beyond that there had been
at the back of his mind a clause
in his Yorkshire agreement
about playing in televised
matches, which would require
him to seek the county club's
permission.
Mr Boycott had said that he
could not sign the contract in

New towns'
housing
transfer in
difficulties

By John Young
Planning Reporter

Government plans to transfer
the housing assets of the 11
first-generation new towns to
local authorities by April have
run into difficulties. In some
cases the handover may have
to be postponed because of
council fears about costs.
The towns are Aycliffe,
Basilston, Bracknell, Corby,
Crawley, Harlow, Hatfield,
Hemel Hempstead, Peterlee,
Stevenage and Welwyn Garden
City.
Crawley, Hatfield, Hemel
Hempstead and Welwyn are
administered by the Commis-
sion for the New Towns, and
agreement on the transfer of
their housing was announced
last month. Stevenage and
Harlow development corpora-
tions are understood also to
have agreements with their
local councils.
But Basilston, for example,
has said it cannot accept
responsibility because the trans-
fer terms would impose an
unacceptable burden on rate-
payers. Mr Barnett, Parlia-
mentary Under-Secretary of State
at the Department of the Environ-
ment, is to talk to councillors
and development corporation
officials on November 3.
In principle all the councils
are anxious to acquire develop-
ment corporation assets in the
name of "democratization".
But their enthusiasm is in some
cases tempered by the extent
of the accompanying debt and
commitments to further expan-
sion.

Man denies killings
and robbery at bank

David Walsh, an electrician,
said at Chester Crown Court
yesterday that Miss Susan
Hockenbush, aged 19, a bank
clerk, made him a cup of tea
on the day he is alleged to
have murdered her. He also
said that he had spoken to the
girl the previous day. "I
thought she was a very nice
girl, cheerful", he added.
Mr Walsh, aged 30, of War-
wick Road, Macclesfield,
Cheshire, has pleaded not
guilty to the murders of Miss
Hockenbush and Ian Jebb, her
colleague, and to robbing them
of £2,444 at Williams and Glyn's
bank at Prestbury on February
25.
Mr Jebb was stabbed at the
bank and Miss Hockenbush died
after being left bound and
gagged on a lonely moorland.
Mr Walsh said in evidence
that he had spoken to Miss
Hockenbush when he called at
the bank to repair an adding
machine on February 24 and
25. On the first occasion he
did not have a vital part with
him.
During the second visit he
changed some old, torn notes
and received £31 in new notes
from Miss Hockenbush. When
he left the bank to return home
it was still open.
He said that a blue sheet
used to gag Mr Jebb did not
belong to him. He denied own-
ing a sheath knife since he was
"a little lad in the Scouts".
He agreed that he had told
a neighbour some weeks before
the killings that only one man
was on duty at the bank. He
denied saying the bank would
be easy to rob.
Referring to blood found on
his boots, Mr Walsh said he
had been admitted to Salford

Royal Hospital about a week
before the bank robbery and
thought blood from a small
boy's car knee had splashed on
to them.
He admitted to his counsel
having a prison record, mainly
for dishonesty. He told Mr Nigel
Fricker, for the prosecution, that
he obtained £200 fraudulently
using a credit card at banks in
Sheffield last December.
Mr Walsh said that on
February 25 at 1.30 pm he was
on his way to Manchester. In
reply to Mr Fricker he said he
had wondered why the killer
took Miss Hockenbush from the
bank. He had no idea why she
was taken.
Mr Fricker asked Mr Walsh
about money he had paid out
for a car, gifts and rent soon
after the robbery. Mr Walsh
said a man he had sold equip-
ment to had offered to see him
up in employment. "He offered
to help me out, offering me
about £600 or £700 to buy my
car", he added.
He did not know whether the
man was available to give evi-
dence.
Mr Fricker suggested that Mr
Walsh had been feeling better
on the Friday evening because
he had just robbed the bank.
Mr Walsh replied: "I did
not rob that bank and I did not
kill Susan Hockenbush and Ian
Jebb".
The trial continues today.

Poor to get
right of
appeal to
High Court

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

Regulations are about to be
made to allow poor people a
right of appeal to the High
Court if they are dissatisfied
with decisions made by
supplementary benefit appeal
tribunals.
That became clear yesterday,
the eve of a public protest by
the Child Poverty Action Group
that the Government had
reneged on its promise to intro-
duce such a right.
The group discloses today
that information leaks to them
indicated that the Government
had shelved the proposal,
announced in January in re-
sponse to recommendations by
Professor Kathleen Bell, who
conducted an independent in-
quiry into the workings of
tribunals.
But sources indicated yester-
day that the regulations needed
to bring the reform will be
made soon and the right of
appeal will be implemented
from January 1 next. Mr Frank
Field, director of the group,
said he had written to the Lord
Chancellor's office and to the
Minister for Social Security
asking whether that was correct.
He said: "We will be over-
joyed if the regulations are
made soon, because the right to
appeal to the High Court will
transform the way appeal tri-
bunals deal with people."
The new right to appeal to
the High Court is not intended
to preclude the introduction of
another appeal tier within the
tribunal system.

Booksellers
protest on
race attacks

By Stewart Tandler

Booksellers' attacks on book-
shops for minority groups have
increased this year, but the
Home Secretary has taken no
interest and the police no
action, representatives of the
shops alleged yesterday.
A group of the shops, which are
mainly used by the black and
Asian communities in London,
have banded together to try to
force the Home Office to re-
spond to the attacks, which
have included fire-bombing.
Mr John La Rose, of New
Beacon Books, Finchbury Park,
north London, told the press
yesterday at a west London
shop that it was badly damaged
by fire in August, and that
there had been reports of simi-
lar attacks or threats in Leeds,
Bradford and Nottingham.
Mr La Rose said that
attempts to arrange a meeting
with Mr Rees, Home Secretary,
had failed. He alleged that
their first letter was mislaid
and that there was no reply to
a letter in September.
No reply had been received
from Mr David McNee, the
Metropolitan Police Commis-
sioner, to a request for a meet-
ing, he added.
He said that no arrests or
charges had been made, and in
individual cases the police did
not appear to take the attacks
seriously. There had been de-
lays in police inquiries, and no
attempt to investigate right-wing
groups, although their literature
had been left after attacks.
Scotland Yard said yesterday
that all incidents reported to
the police were fully investi-
gated. The Home Office said
officials were trying to trace
the correspondence referred to
by Mr La Rose.

hortage of doctors in
rgeest NHS region

Arthur Osman
Birmingham

The West Midlands, which is
largest health service re-
gion in the country in terms
of population and expenditure,
has less than its fair share of
hospitals, according to an
independent strategy document
the next 10 years prepared by
the West Midlands Regional
Health Authority.
The document says the region
has a deficit of medical man-
power compared with the coun-
try as a whole. To bring it up
to national average, it needs
more than 100 consultants and
senior house officers.
It is clear that the West
Midlands has far fewer medical
staff per place than a pro rata
distribution throughout the
country would suggest. This
is inevitable because the
concentration of facilities
in London.
The region's capacity to attract
doctors of good quality is

adequate numbers for health
service medical posts, whether
for general practice, community
care or hospitals, depends to an
extent on the number of doc-
tors it can train in its own
medical schools, it is argued.
"For a number of years the
universities of Keele and War-
wick have been promoting
claims for the establishment of
medical schools. Both propos-
als are understood to be reach-
ing the stage of submissions to
the University Grants Com-
mittee."
Compared with England and
Wales, the region has a greater
percentage of people under 45
and a smaller percentage aged
45 and over, the document
states. The proportion of the
population attending a general
practitioner is the lowest in the
country for all ages over 15.
But consultation rates for in-
testinal infections and for can-
cer of the rectum, larynx, breast
and brain are higher than in
the rest of the country.

'Police consider possible
link between killings

Ronald Faux
Edinburgh

The Lothian and Borders
Police are considering the pos-
sibility of a link between the
murders of two young women
in Edinburgh last weekend
and other murders in Strath-
clyde and Wales.
The naked and near-naked
bodies of Helen Scott and
Christine Eadie, both aged 17
and from Edinburgh, were found
several miles apart, on sand-
dunes near Haddington. Both
had been strangled and
sexually attacked, the police
said, and the hands of each girl

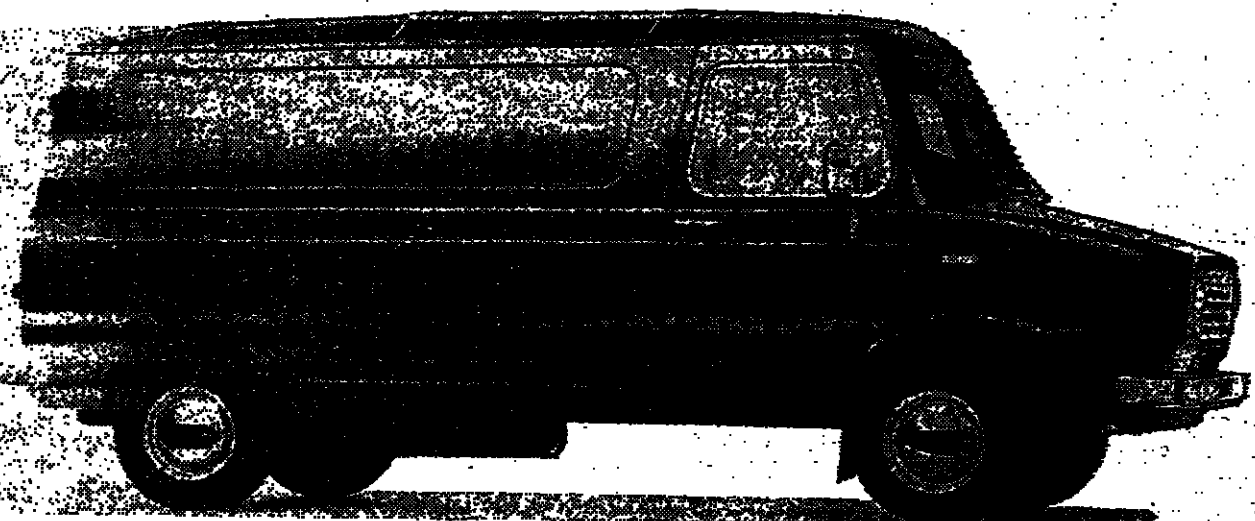
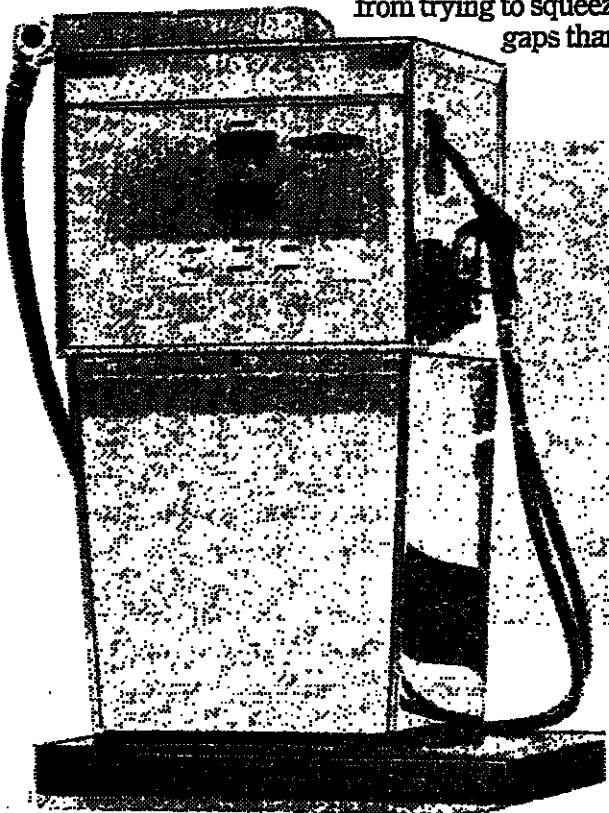
had been bound behind her
back.
It has been established that
the two Edinburgh victims
were together in a public
house near the Royal Mile
until 11 pm on Saturday night.
They were seen in the company
of two men aged between 25
and 30, one of them stocky,
with short, wavy hair, fresh
complexion and a thick mous-
tache. The police are anxious
to interview the men.
They also wish to get into
touch with two male occupants
of a dark coloured car seen
traveling at speed through Port
Sleith at 3.20 am on Sunday.

When others run dry
we Sherpa on: 31.1 mpg.

"Truck" magazine's April issue reported a
comparison between Sherpa, Transit, Bedford, VW and
Dodge vans.
Their gruelling test included heavy traffic, delivery
and motorway conditions.
All carried a load of one metric tonne.
The overdrive Sherpa and the standard Sherpa
returned better overall mpg figures than any of their rivals.
Our overdrive version clocked 31.1, and our
standard version clocked 29.26 mpg.
"Truck" concluded: "...the Sherpas were the best all
rounders at the test track with consistent economy,
respectable performance..."
Even more astounding, a loaded Sherpa diesel is
the only van on a "Motor Transport" road-test to break the
50mpg barrier. An all-time record.
Said Motor Transport Magazine: "There can be no
question that the diesel-powered Sherpa is the most
fuel-sparing commercial we have ever tested - apart
from battery electrics."

It handles more, yet it's easier to handle.
190 cubic feet (SAE) puts the Sherpa among the
top space providers: a lot of useful storage, yes; but even
more useful is the way we've distributed it. Wisely, we've
gone for length as the big dimension.
Result: The Sherpa is your best buy for carrying
long things like ladders, 12 foot carpet rolls (if you remove
the passenger seat), and up to 14 bulky, building-site
workers in the crewbus version.
Even the boxed-in wheel arches are flat-topped to
provide storage shelves.
Greater length and less width has given the driver
yet another advantage. More scrapes and bumps come
from trying to squeeze through narrow
gaps than from parking.

But the long, slim Sherpa can snake down a narrow
lane between parked cars without losing a lick of paint.
Two more examples of canny design: the Sherpa's
bumpers (fore and aft) are all interchangeable, and sensibly
placed to protect all lights.
Even more useful, the engine is mounted forward
of the driver, and when you lift the bonnet you'll find it's
extraordinarily compact. So the driver has more protection,
and the maintenance mechanic more elbow room.
As for cab comfort, the Sherpa can stand comparison
with the best.
Can anyone beat a two year warranty with full
AA service thrown in?
The Sherpa, like all vehicles from Leyland Cars, enjoys
a warranty without parallel in Britain today. A year's free,
no-mileage limit, with free parts and labour, is about the best
our competitors can offer. Leyland have gone three better.
We add to that a year's free 24 hour roadside assistance
from the A.A., a year's free A.A. Relay Recovery service
(approved conversions and U.K. mainland only) and a
free 69 point pre-sale checkout. That's Supercover.
Best of all, for a small extra premium, Leyland Cars
will give you cover for a second year.
The Leyland Sherpa range can take payloads from
13 cwt to 23 cwt, and you've a choice of 3 engines:
1622 cc and 1798 cc petrol and 1798 cc diesel. Overdrive
is an optional extra on the 1798 cc petrol and diesel.
It's a range that is unique in yet another way. Sherpa
alone include 5 basic body-options; including a pick-up.
For the address of your nearest dealer, write to
Light Commercial Vehicle Sales, Sales & Marketing
Division, Leyland Cars, Grosvenor House,
Redditch, Worcestershire.
The Sherpa comes in the following body options:
Vans. Minibuses. Crewbuses. Pick-ups. Chassis-cabs.



Sherpa
From Leyland Cars. With Supercover.

5000 من الاموال

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Why does your appetite decrease as you get older?

Whatever the reason—for many old people it's just as well that it does. It is a sad thought that nowadays many old people just cannot afford to eat properly, even with a diminished appetite.

Older people need somewhere they can meet and share a meal, or just a cup of tea. It doesn't seem much to ask, but among the few places are the Day Centres that are supported by Help the Aged, and there's not enough of them.

This is where you can really help. Help the Aged's only source of money is from voluntary donations. You can be assured your donation will be carefully used to make some old people here, or abroad, less lonely, cold and hungry.

A donation of £25 provides much needed equipment for a Centre; £5 will send 25 meals abroad, while £150 will not only help a Day Centre, it will also put the name of a loved one on the Dedication Plaque in the Day Centre.

Your donation is desperately needed to help the lonely and the housebound. So please use the FREEPOST facility and address your gift to: Hon Treasurer, The Rt Hon Lord Maybray-King, Help the Aged, Room T8, FREEPOST 30, London W1E 7JZ. (No stamp needed). * Please let us know if you would like your gift used for a particular purpose.

HOME NEWS

Court says former wife to have whole house

The rights of divorced couples to the matrimonial home are not always equal, or even near it, the Court of Appeal made clear yesterday. It awarded a former wife, left with four children, the whole house.

Lord Justice Ormrod said the concept of equality was elusive. In that case, if the couple's £10,000 interest in their house, bought solely in the husband's name in 1963, was divided, neither would have enough to buy another property. In addition, the former husband, a police officer, had police accommodation.

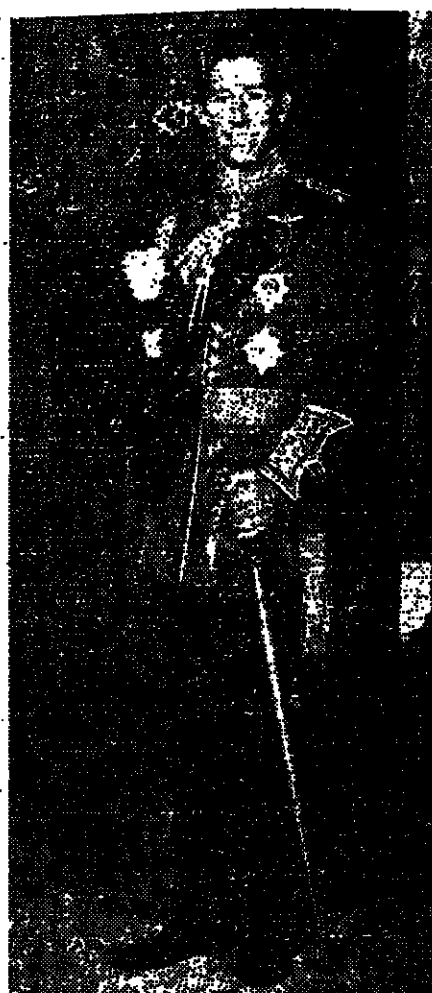
The court allowed an appeal by Mrs Mary Hanlon, aged 44, a community nurse, of Trinity Lane, Welham Cross, Hertfordshire, from an order that the house be sold in five years' time when the youngest child reaches 17, and the proceeds be then divided with her former husband.

The court ordered the former husband, Mr Peter Hanlon, aged 49, living in a police house in Bush Hill Park, Enfield, to transfer the house to her absolutely. In exchange it reduced maintenance payments to the two youngest children, aged 14 and 12, to a nominal sum. He makes no payment to his working wife or to his two elder children, both over 18.

Lord Justice Stamp said the difficulty concerning the matrimonial home after divorce when its sale would not realise enough to provide a roof for both parties "haunts the courts almost every day".

Lord Justice Ormrod said that if that house was sold and the proceeds divided the result would be that both Mrs Hanlon, and later Mr Hanlon, would probably have to be housed by the local authority.

The order appealed from had been made by Mr Justice Rees "almost in despair at solving the problem". He had described it as "the normal order".



Uniforms for all occasions: The Prince of Wales, who is starting a tour of the United States and Australia today, in the uniforms of (left to right) a colonel of the Welsh



Guards, tunic order, a colonel of the Welsh Guards, frock coat, a commander in the Royal Navy and a wing commander in the RAF. The Prince, who was photographed in



the Grand Hall, Windsor Castle, will be in America until October 30 and in Australia from November 1 to 11. In America he will visit Georgia and stay with the governor. In Australia,



among other things he will launch a silver jubilee pop music record album, and attend a gala at Sydney Opera House. He will meet as many young people as possible.

Cod will share herring's fate in N Sea, fishermen say

By Hugh Clayton

Cod stocks in the North Sea have begun to dwindle because of irresponsible catching by Britain's partners in the EEC, fishermen's leaders said yesterday. They fear that cod may suffer the same fate as North Sea herring, now the subject of a unilateral catching ban by the British Government.

Mr George Crawford, a skipper, who is president of the National Federation of Fishermen's Organizations, said in

London: "There has been wholesale slaughter on the Dogger Bank in the past three months. The North Sea is full of small codling and these are being carted off to fishmeal factories in Denmark."

Fishermen insist that the Government's claim to an exclusive 12-mile limit for Britain is inadequate. Mr Jonathan Hall, president of the British Fishing Federation, said that an exclusive 50-mile zone was the least they could accept.

Church lawyers uncertain over policy on woman who officiated in England

By Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Correspondent

Twice in the past seven days a woman ordained as a priest in the Episcopal (Anglican) Church in America has conducted Holy Communion services in Anglican churches in England. It was disclosed yesterday. The news has disturbed ecclesiastical legal circles because there appears to be no reliable means either to ensure those responsible or to prevent a repetition.

The Rev Alison Palmer, who held a Communion service in a Unitarian church in London last autumn, celebrated Holy Communion in a parish church in Manchester last Tuesday and in Newcastle upon Tyne on Sunday.

After publicity in *The Guardian* over last Tuesday's event the Bishop of Manchester, the Right Rev Patrick Rodger, issued a statement regarding "these unlawful proceedings". The Archbishop of York, Dr Blanch, consulted the Bishop of Manchester, and a spokesman for him said later that "action of this sort is counter-productive and what we want is rational and balanced discussion of the whole matter".

The Church of England has put off until November next year any further decision about the ordination of women, having decided so far merely that there are no fundamental objections to their ordination. The Episcopal church, in full communion with the Archbishop of Canterbury, admits

women to the priesthood, and Miss Palmer is the first known woman priest ordained legitimately elsewhere to be invited to take a Communion service in the Church of England.

The regulations in force in the Church of England do not, however, automatically reserve her ordination for services in England. In conservative quarters she is regarded as not only unauthorized but invalidly ordained, and hence still a laywoman.

Under regulations that apply throughout the Anglican Communion, a priest ordained in one province is expected to seek permission to officiate from the local archbishop when visiting another province. Permission in Miss Palmer's case was never sought nor granted.

Last Tuesday's service took place in the Church of the Apostles, east Manchester, where the incumbent is the Rev Alfred Willett. He and his wife, Descombes, Rhonda Willett, wrote to the Bishop of Manchester telling him of what had happened and saying that for them it was a matter of conscience.

Miss Palmer is understood to have posed for a photograph last Friday in the act of celebrating Holy Communion at the request of *The Guardian*.

The service on Sunday in Newcastle upon Tyne took place after discussion between the Bishop of Newcastle, the Right Rev Ronald Bowdler, the incumbent minister, the Rev Ian Harker, and the parochial church council. The bishop had

strongly urged them not to go ahead.

Legal authorities in the Church of England said yesterday that there was no disciplinary penalty available in the present case, and anyway Miss Palmer would not be regarded as a priest in canon law, where it is stated that a candidate for ordination must be male.

The authorities considered that a bishop could bring a charge against the church courts alleging that an incumbent's behaviour amounted to "conduct unbecoming a clergyman".

It is unlawful under the Act of Uniformity, 1562, for someone who has not been properly ordained according to law to "presume" to celebrate Holy Communion, but again there is no penalty.

The incumbent would have to be convicted of conduct unbecoming a clergyman by his participation in such a service, and his consent for such use of a church building.

However, the authorities are divided on whether such a complaint would be likely to be upheld in view of the decision of the general synod in 1975 about the ordination of women. The only other course open would appear to be a High Court injunction preventing a service from taking place.

The House of Bishops of the Church of England decided last year that no bishop would recognize a woman priest ordained overseas until the general synod had considered the matter again. *Leading article, page 17*

ADVERTISEMENT

Our food (and our children's food) must not be given away.

Next week, on the 24-25th, your Government is attempting, possibly for the last time, to set in train serious negotiations with the EEC countries on the future of one of our most valuable food resources.

The waters around our islands, and the North Sea in particular, are the world's most prolific fish pond, one of our richest natural assets, a vital source of food, and jobs, and a major contributor to the balance of payments.

Britain's pond provides more than 60% of the so called "EEC pond" which currently yields around 3,000,000 tonnes of fish a year. Properly cared for, it could, within five years, yield more than 5,000,000 tonnes, worth more than £2,000,000,000.

What is more, that would be £2,000,000,000 a year for ever. Unlike the oil and gas, the fish resource, properly cared for, will follow its natural cycle of reproduction and will not run out.

On the basis of that 60% contribution of waters, Britain should reasonably expect the same share of that £2,000,000,000. A claim further enhanced by the fact that we are Europe's predominant fishing nation with the biggest food fish market and the biggest fleet and shore based industry in addition to owning the major share of the resources.

But Britain is in danger of losing its rightful share and, even more alarmingly, the waters and the fish within them are not being properly cared for.

Despite our predominance, and the fact that we have lost more in distant waters than the other European states and have little to gain from access to their own largely barren waters, the rest of the community would deny us our fair share in pursuit of their objective of unrestrained access to our fish by making it the community's only common resource.

In addition, Britain's pond is being pillaged. Too many fish are being caught, many of them before they mature and are able to reproduce. The resource is dwindling under the pressure of the present "free-for-all" resulting from the lack of a fair and responsible European fisheries policy and, unlike Britain, the proper policing and enforcement of catch regulations by other member states.

To ensure that Britain gets her fair share and, above all, that the fish stocks are adequately restored and conserved, British fishermen claim there

is only one solution. It is, as the rest of the world has already demonstrated, to give the coastal state exclusive control over a wide band around its own shores. That is why Britain claims a 50 mile exclusive zone within its own 200 mile limit.

It is the only certain method of exercising the degree of control required to establish what should be caught by whom (and how) and, above all, ensuring that such a conservation regime is fully enforced; but once such control is out of the hands of those most interested (the coastal state), abuse, as present events prove, is inevitable.

If the Government fails to obtain an exclusively controlled 50 mile zone for Britain, these are the likely results:

1. A continuation of the present gross over-fishing with a quickening in the pace of decline in the stocks as ever more immature fish are caught and the sea's life cycle is cut off in its juvenile stages.
2. The creeping unemployment in the British catching industry, and the shore based industries that support it in the ratio of six jobs on shore to every one at sea, will become even greater.
3. If, as the disappearing herring already graphically demonstrates, our waters become a maritime desert, the other EEC countries as well as Britain will suffer. With less fish available for British and European housewives, what there is will inevitably become more expensive. We will have to make up with imports - if we can afford them.
4. If we give it all away, there will be no hope of Britain ever getting its fair share of its own fish again. We will miss out on a £2,000,000,000 catch that in perpetuity would not only support our own and the European markets but, from the world's richest fish pond, open up new opportunities in world markets too.

With an exclusively controlled 50 mile fishing zone all this could be avoided. Future supplies of varied, reasonably priced, good quality fish would be assured.

That is why it is essential that the Government speaks up for us vigorously and uncompromisingly next week.

We must have a 50 mile exclusive fishing zone



British Fishing Federation, National Federation of Trawler Officers Guilds, National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations, Scottish Fishermen's Federation.

Warning about glass-fibre bonnets on Minis

Motorists who fit glass-fibre bonnets on old Minis are running an accident risk, a British Leyland expert said yesterday.

Mr Robert Deboo-Jones, an expert on chassis structures at Leyland's Longbridge factory, told magistrates at Redbridge, London, that it was possible that the car's handling might be affected.

Peter William Weyell, aged 30, of Spelthorne, Middlesex, was charged with driving a car in a dangerous condition. He was fined £10 after changing his plea from not guilty to guilty.

Police Constable Vernon Prichard said he and a colleague from Scotland Yard's accident prevention unit stopped Mr Weyell in Dagenham in April. They found the metal bonnet of his Mini had been replaced by glass fibre. He took the car for a test drive and found it badly understeered because of the modification.

"At 40 miles an hour the front end of the car tended to break away," he said. "If you were at lower speeds the car would be in a crash the engine could go into the passenger compartment. The bonnet was held on only by hinges to the front frame and rubber clips on the side."

The officer said that when an integral part of a car was removed the whole vehicle became structurally unsafe. "It is like an egg, it is strong only because of its shape. If you slice the shell the shell you lose all the strength."

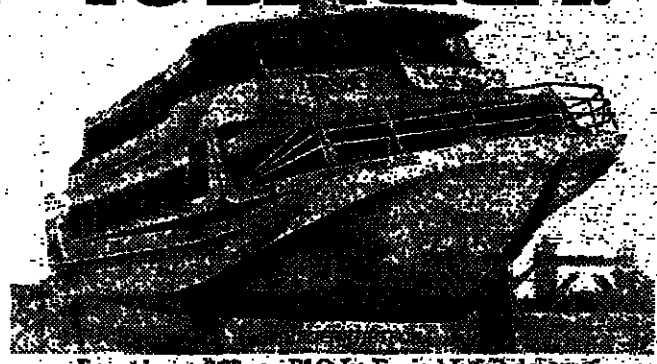
Mr Weyell said the bonnet was the second he had fitted. The first had split in two in a crash.

The Department of Transport said circulars warning car test stations about potential dangers from replacement fibre bonnets would be issued.

Car driver sought

Detectives investigating the murder of Mrs Vanessa Raven, aged 23, who was found drowned in the bath at her home in Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, last Friday, are seeking the driver of a light, two-door saloon car seen parked near the house. A special team will start checking thousands of cars today.

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Every day at 2.30 pm P&O Jet Ferries' Jetfoil departs from St. Katharine's Pier in the heart of London.

It skirts across the sea at 50 mph arriving in Zeebrugge at 7 pm.

A coach will whisk you to Bruges, where a simple connection takes you to Brussels. Jet take-off point for the rest of Europe.

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The Times Special Reports

All the subject matter on all the subjects discussed

HOME NEWS

Government considers allocating more money to maintain local adult literacy projects

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

The Government is considering allocating more money to local authorities to provide courses for adults who cannot read or write, in line with recommendations by the Adult Literacy Resource Agency report published last week.

Without some specific financial allocation from central government, the continued provision for adult literacy would be "gravely endangered", the agency says. It is due to be abandoned when the two-year government "pump-priming" grant of £1m runs out at the end of March.

Since the agency was set up in 1975, more than 100,000 adults have received tuition. In the 12 months ended last March nearly 40,000 adults began tuition. A survey of one week in February showed a total of 59,398 students in adult literacy classes and 3,410 more on waiting lists.

Clearly the establishment of the agency had been invaluable in stimulating the growth and provision for adult literacy by local authorities and voluntary organisations, the report says, but separate funding for adult literacy through the agency is divisive, it argues.

Local authorities should accept responsibility for adult literacy as an integral part of their education services, but the increasing numbers of students (200-300 applicants a week as a result of BBC programmes alone) could tax the resources of local authorities severely, it says.

It therefore recommends specific central government grants to ensure an adequate basic service in each area.

The report says that although nearly all authorities give adult literacy some priority, most have cut provision directly or by increasing students' fees. There was a wide disparity. Some authorities had allocated more than £75,000 to adult literacy last year, others had provided less than £3,000.

When asked to comment on their expected provision after March 1978, 42 of the 104 education authorities in England and Wales said they hoped to maintain their service at its present level, but nine expressed serious concern in coming years from cessation of central funding will be calamitous, to "the service may have to be withdrawn".

While 63 authorities make no charge to literacy students, 41 charge fees that ranged last year from 50p to £7.50 a year, although many waive all or part of the fees in special cases, such as the unemployed.

The agency is anxious that potential students might be deterred because of the cost. It is also concerned about the building up of waiting lists for literacy courses in some areas. Waiting lists are dangerous, it says. Unless contact is maintained with those on the waiting list and action is taken within a reasonable time, they fade away, often never to be heard of again.

Of £782,650 spent by the agency last year, £140,393 went to 65 voluntary organisations, for which the outlook after March is particularly bleak. The report strongly urges central government help for those organisations.

Adult Literacy: Developments in 1976-77 (Stationery Office, £1.50).

Mr Alan Wells, one of the authors of the report, said yesterday that there were about two million illiterate people in Britain.

The report maintains that the Government has responded to the question by "short-term, piecemeal measures".

Adult Literacy: A continuing need (British Association of Settlements and Social Action Centres, 7 Exton Street, London, W20).

Long-term strategy urged

By a Staff Reporter

The Government is criticised in a report by the British Association of Settlements and Social Action Centres (BAS) for not developing a coherent long-term strategy for tackling adult illiteracy in Britain.

The report, published yesterday, calls for further central government funding of literacy services. Present government funding is due to end next March and the report expresses the fear that many local authorities will not provide adequate tuition.

Mr Alan Wells, one of the authors of the report, said yesterday that there were about two million illiterate people in Britain.

The report maintains that the Government has responded to the question by "short-term, piecemeal measures".

Adult Literacy: A continuing need (British Association of Settlements and Social Action Centres, 7 Exton Street, London, W20).

Complaint on report of army shooting rejected

A complaint that *The Guardian* prejudged a matter likely to become the subject of an official investigation is rejected in a Press Council adjudication issued today.

The council says it is satisfied that a report in *The Guardian* was based on completely reputable information which turned out to be true when the matter was judicially investigated.

Under the headline "Army gun slows tide of peace", the paper published an article by Derek Brown quoting a police statement that the bullets that killed Majella O'Hare, aged 12, in Northern Ireland probably came from an army weapon.

The article commented that the statement left little doubt that they came from a soldier.

Mr D. C. Sage, of St Catherine Road, Baginbun, Port Talbot, told the council that Mr Brown's evidence could not justify saying more than that there was doubt about who killed her.

Mr Brown told the complaints committee that every case of shooting in Northern Ireland was investigated by the police and the suggestion that a matter under judicial investigation should not be reported would put a newspaper into a situation of not reporting at all.

In this instance, Mr Brown said, he had been informed by two responsible officers in the security forces that the soldier who killed the girl had been fired by a soldier. He said the evidence was not just adequate, it was overwhelming, and if anything the report he wrote was hedged with unnecessary uncertainty.

Dealing with evidence brought up at the trial of a soldier who was acquitted of the child's manslaughter, Mr Brown said the defence had not denied that the soldier fired the fatal shot; he had insisted he was firing at a gunman, and the judge accepted that Technical evidence proved that his weapon was grossly inaccurate.

Mr Kenneth Dodd, executive editor of *The Guardian*, told the Council that Mr Brown was extremely experienced in reporting the Ulster situation, and his record was one of unqualified fairness and understanding. There had been no accusation of bias against him by either the Army or the Government.

The Press Council in its adjudication, said:

It was argued that in the present tense situation in Northern Ireland it was of the utmost importance that newspapers should not in any way prejudice or exacerbate matters which are likely to be the subject of official investigation. The Press Council is satisfied that this report was based on completely reputable information. Although it was claimed that in advance of a judicial inquiry it would have been better not to refer to the allegation that a soldier was suspected of shooting the girl, the council is satisfied that the newspaper considered all these aspects and exercised a proper responsibility in coming to a decision.

The complaint against *The Guardian* is rejected.

Bus queue thieves

Two armed men who had been standing in a bus queue held up a Post Office van in Lewisham, south-east London, yesterday and escaped with £200 in coins.

IF YOU SMELL GAS-RING US

If you smell gas, remember the simple safety rules:-

- * Don't smoke or use naked flames.
- * Don't operate electrical switches-on or off.
- * Do open doors and windows.
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If you suspect a gas leak, turn off the supply at the meter-and report the leak. Do this at once.

The number's in the telephone directory under Gas-and we're on call 24 hours a day.

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Ask at your local gas showroom for our free booklet 'Help Yourself To Gas Safety', which describes the full range of services we provide.

BRITISH GAS

Hearing of charges against police chief starts

From Our Correspondent
Preston

The hearing of disciplinary charges against Mr Stanley Parr, Lancashire's suspended chief constable, opened in private at Preston yesterday. Only those involved in the proceedings were present. They included a shorthand writer, who will produce a transcript of the evidence.

Mr Parr, aged 60, who was suspended on full pay in June, arrived accompanied by his counsel, Mr Michael Maguire, QC, and other legal representatives.

The tribunal is headed by Mr Patrick Bennett, QC, of the Midlands and Oxford circuit, who is assisted by Mr A. F. Wilcox, former Chief Constable of Hertfordshire. The hearing is expected to last at least two weeks.

Allegations are of improper use of police resources and Mr Parr's alleged intervention in the processes of law.

Mr Parr was suspended after Lancashire police committee decided a report by Sir Douglas Osmond, former Chief Constable of Hampshire, who carried out an inquiry into allegations against him. Last month the county council rejected a plea by Mr Parr to be allowed to retire from his £13,500 a year job as head of the county police force.

The tribunal has power to recommend a reprimand, resignation or dismissal, and can acquit the chief constable. The final word rests with the police committee.

Mr Parr was suspended after Lancashire police committee decided a report by Sir Douglas Osmond, former Chief Constable of Hampshire, who carried out an inquiry into allegations against him. Last month the county council rejected a plea by Mr Parr to be allowed to retire from his £13,500 a year job as head of the county police force.

The tribunal has power to recommend a reprimand, resignation or dismissal, and can acquit the chief constable. The final word rests with the police committee.

Football fan battered man to death

From Our Correspondent
Lincoln

Paul Fell, a Manchester United supporter, kicked and battered a defenceless drunken man to death after his team had lost, it was alleged at Lincoln Crown Court yesterday.

He repeatedly smashed his foot into the man's face and carried on the attack with a sock, Mr John Owen, QC, for the prosecution, said. The attack was so vicious that the sock broke as it smashed into Mr George Kapitan's face. As the man lay on the ground, Mr Owen added, Mr Fell stripped him naked except for his socks and stole £3 and his watch.

Mr Fell, aged 18, of Ravensdale Avenue, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, pleaded guilty to murdering Mr Kapitan, aged 46, and was ordered to be detained at Her Majesty's pleasure.

Mr Owen said that Mr Fell had told the police: "I knocked him down and started kicking him. I smashed all his face in. I must have kicked him about 10 times. I just lost my temper and did not know what I was doing."

Jail for men who robbed band leader's home

Two men who robbed the London home of Miss Ivy Benson, the band leader, and stole jewelry and a mink coat, together valued at £3,000 were jailed at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

During the robbery Miss Benson's father, Mr Douglas Benson, aged 85, was hit with a piece of rubber and tied up, Mr Simon Smith, for the prosecution, said.

Gerald O'Flanagan, aged 28, a self-employed painter, of Union Road, South Lambeth, London, was jailed for four years, and Frederick Holdaway, aged 41, unemployed, of Overstone Road, Hammersmith, London, was jailed for three years.

Both pleaded guilty to robbing Mr Benson at Foster Road, Chiswick, London, on December 6 last.

A third man, Frederick Clarke, aged 29, unemployed, of Chestnut Close, Hayes, Middlesex, was acquitted on the direction of Judge Ranking. He denied taking part in the robbery and assaulting a police constable in the execution of his duty on the same night. He was found not guilty on both charges.

Probation officers' criticism ill informed, solicitors say

An allegation of incompetence against solicitors, made at the weekend in evidence to the Royal Commission on Legal Services by the London branch of the National Association of Probation Officers, was described yesterday by Mr Jeffrey Gordon, information officer of the British Legal Association, as a "monstrous piece of vicious, untruthful, researched and unjustified generalization".

Mr Gordon said: "As practising solicitors we are tired of

being the Aunt Sallies of legally unqualified organizations presenting ill-informed evidence to the royal commission.

"The London branch of the probation officers' national association must surely know that solicitors do not have prior notice of arrest; clients come to solicitors late in the day; granting of legal aid is sometimes delayed, and arrangements cannot be made to see defendants because of restricted visiting conditions in London prisons."

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HOME NEWS

Army units on standby in event of a terrorist attack on oil installations, author says

By Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent
Units of The Special Air Service Regiment have been put on permanent standby in the event of terrorist attacks on Britain's North Sea oil rigs or pipelines, according to a book published today.

The author, Mr Paul Wilkinson, senior lecturer in politics at University College, Cardiff, told me that the defence of oil installations at sea had been put higher on the agenda as the result of security talks between EEC countries.

These have been held between Mr Rees, Home Secretary, and his counterparts in other EEC countries, as well as between police chiefs. Mr Wilkinson said that the Royal Navy had also developed a much closer interest in low intensity operations and surveillance than was the case two or three years ago. The protection of rigs was being given more resources as an inter-service task.

The use of advisers from the SAS in handling the South Moluccan terrorists in Holland

was cited as an example of European cooperation when Mr Rees met Community ministers in London in June.

The precedent is likely to be followed in other EEC countries when terrorists attack. After the June meeting Mr Rees foresaw a need for co-operation in preventing the theft of nuclear materials and protecting nuclear power stations.

Mr Wilkinson says in his book that there were at least ten attacks on nuclear installations in Western Europe between 1969 and 1975, eight of them involving the placing of explosives. In March, 1976, American officials said that since March, 1969, there had been 175 acts of violence or threats against nuclear installations in the United States.

Mr Wilkinson says: "There is little doubt that sufficient quantities of enriched uranium and plutonium could be obtained to make possible the manufacture of a primitive nuclear device."

He also says there is a grave shortage of equipment, special

skills and training to control riots. "Shields, riot control helmets, water cannon and tear gas, which are the stock-in-trade of many American and continental European police forces, are going to be needed extensively in Britain in coming decades."

"The unpleasant fact is that unless resources such as these are made rapidly and widely available to our police, the latter simply will not have the level of minimal force necessary to contain riots and disturbances that are likely to occur."

"It would be in circumstances where the police were clearly unable to cope that a government would be likely to take the grave step of calling in the Army to aid the civil power in a widening range of situations of disorder. Alternatively, there might be such strong political pressures in favour of establishing a special third force to deal with the disorders that they would prove politically irresistible."

Terrorism and the Liberal State (The Macmillan Press Ltd, hardcover, £7.95, paperback £2.95).

Rover adds to its successful range

By Peter Waymark

Motoring Correspondent

Two additional versions of the much-acclaimed Rover are announced today by Leyland Cars. Six-cylinder 2300 and 2600 models join the 3500 V8, which has won a string of awards, including the "Car of the Year" title since it was launched 18 months ago. The new cars go on sale immediately and replace the former Rover 2200 and the Triumph 2000/2500 range, which are being phased out after production runs of 14 years.

The Rover 2300 and 2600 are powered by a new six-cylinder, in-line engine of 2300 cc and 2597 cc. It is the first completely new engine to be developed by Leyland since the formation of the company nine years ago, with an aluminium cylinder head, overhead camshaft and twin carburetors.

According to Leyland figures, the 2300 accelerates to 60 mph in 11.5 seconds and the 2600 in 10.7 seconds, and the respective top speeds are 114 and 119 mph. Touring fuel consumption



The successful Rover shape, now offered in 2300 and 2600 (above) versions.

is said to be about 25 miles to the gallon on each model.

The new cars have the same five-door bodyshell as the 3500, but power steering, tinted glass and halogen foglamps are optional rather than standard items. The 2600 shares the five-speed gearbox of the 3500 and the 2300 has a four-speed version of the same box. The self-levelling rear suspension from the 3500 is fitted to the 2600 but not the 2300.

The 2300 is priced at £5,350 and the 2600 at £5,800. At the same time the price of the 3500

is increased by £517 to £5,800, and it now costs £2,000 more than at its launch last year.

Leyland expect the new models to account for two thirds of Rover sales eventually, and hope that the smaller engines will attract buyers on the Continent, where car tax is related to engine capacity.

To exploit the full potential of the Rover—thought to be one of their most profitable cars—Leyland want to double the output of the Solihull factory to 100,000 units a year by introducing a night shift. But

the plan is opposed by the unions, who argue that night working is unsocial and has a bad effect on family life.

The factory was built for the new model, but has consequently fallen short of production targets. Delivery to customers has been as low as nine months. The 3500 has been outsold in Britain recently by one of its main continental competitors, the German Audi 100. When I drove the new cars I was impressed by the smooth and quiet running of the six-cylinder engines.

Tory MP will argue closed shop test case

By a Staff Reporter

Mr Jonathan Aiken, Conservative MP for Thanet, East Kent, will represent a constituent at an industrial tribunal today in what he regards as a test case of closed shop legislation.

He will tell the tribunal at Ashford, Kent, that Mr Kenneth Richards, 40, of Broomfield, Kent, is the victim of a closed shop arrangement. Mr Aiken will contend that it was an unfair dismissal.

Mr Richards, aged 40, worked for more than four years at a skilled workman, earning £4,000 a year at Pashley Holdings Ltd, based in Sandwich, manufacturer of generating equipment.

Mr Aiken said Mr Richards had come to him because he had lost his job and no financial resources.

In February the company signed a closed shop agreement with representatives of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union (EETPU), the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, the General and Municipal Workers' Union and the Boatmen's Society. Mr Richards refused to join the EETPU, which he believed "to be a union of thugs."

Although the company offered to retrain him and to pay a sum of money equivalent to his union fees into the funds of the EETPU, the union refused to accept Mr Richards. Mr Richards lost his job on March 31.

Mr Aiken, who has a degree in law, was a member of the Commons standing committee that considered the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Amendment) Bill, which legislated for the closed shop. "This is a new law which turns around the law of dismissal and the closed shop. I am going to argue that the agreement at the company is defective," he said.

Beer again for Fox and Goose

Deliveries will be resumed to the Fox and Goose public house in Birmingham next week, a statement from Ansell's Brewery said today.

The public house has been without beer for 22 months after the brewery refused to supply it because of a dispute with the present manager's predecessor. The statement said there was an improved understanding between the company and the union.

Europe's biggest 'battery' is inside a mountain

Unusual features about the power station being constructed inside a mountain at Llanberis include the prospect of two buses being able to pass in the tunnels below the 2,500ft Eildyr Fawr and the fact that some £30m is being spent because digging holes in a mountain and letting water through them is the most effective way to store electricity.

The Central Electricity Generating Board, which considers the scheme "one of the most exciting and challenging energy projects in the world," says its power station under a National Park may become a tourist attraction with up to 1,000 visitors a day.

That is no wild estimate. During a recent open day to show visitors the early stages of construction, 10,600 people turned up. Llanberis is already something of a shrine for industrial archaeologists, with its slate quarry museum almost alongside the project for a "pumped storage power station".

Man has devised many ways of generating electricity but few ways of storing it that go much beyond the traditional battery.

Some 20 years ago, however, engineers devised a way of at

Regional report

John Chartres
Llanberis

least smoothing over the discrepancies between the steady output from bigger and bigger power stations and the fluctuating demand of consumers who do unscientific things like switching off their lights when they go to bed and rushing up put on electric kettles during a natural break in a television programme.

The idea was to use spare power when demand was low to pump water up the side of a mountain and run it down again through a hydroelectric generator when demand was high.

One of the world's first such storage stations was built 15 miles away from Llanberis at Ffestiog, in the 1960s, and has worked successfully since.

Many have been built abroad but this project at Dinorwic, due in operation by 1982, is breaking records through sheer size and complexity.

It will be Europe's largest of its kind and will be able to generate to produce 1,320 megawatts (the equivalent of two large steam power station generators) in 10 seconds from switch-on by letting 400 tons of water a second fall about 1,500 ft through a pipe from a lake at the top of the mountain to another at the bottom.

Five and a half miles of tunnels are being dug, some about twice the diameter of those of the London Underground; nearly 15 million tons of rock is being excavated and when the station is working nearly 1,500 million gallons of water will circulate between the lakes.

Great care is being taken of the fish. Lyn Peris is the habitat of the elusive charr, and one task for Dr Alastair Rogers, senior environmental officer, will be to transfer them to a new home at Ffynnon Llwyd, in the next valley.

Objections from environmentalists when the scheme was first mooted have dwindled faster than those associated with most large technological developments in areas of scenic beauty.

Llanberis has been noted not only for its beauty but also for the hideousness of the remains of the Dinorwic slate quarries, and since the tunnels

are being dug into the old, grim quarry faces, the work seems to be improving the scenery.

The scheme is providing 2,500 well paid jobs in a high unemployment area, nine out of 10 of them going to local people.

Once the scheme is built it will only need a handful of people to run it, but local opinion is that a good job for five years is better than no job at all. Most of the men have learnt new skills and the board has spent £2,500,000 on training.

Mr Trevor Williams, administrative manager and a member of Arfon District Council, said: "There were people who seemed to think that a disused slate quarry was some sacred thing of beauty, but naturally they did not live here." Despite early local suspicion, he doubted whether much criticism remained.

A scheme under consideration is an underground railway for visitors to tour inside the mountain.

The Countryside Commission does not want the public to use the board's roads to the mountain's breathtaking viewpoints. People will be able to visit "the top lake" when work is completed. But they will have to walk.

Vaccination less likely for girls at private schools

By Our Health Services

Correspondent

Families from professional families are more likely not to be vaccinated against rubella (German measles), which causes deafness and other disabilities in babies if it is contracted by mothers in early pregnancy, the National Child Development Study said in its annual report yesterday.

The society, which is campaigning to persuade young women to be vaccinated against the disease, suggests that one explanation of the low number was that those girls were more likely to attend independent schools and were therefore excluded from the schools health service vaccination programme.

That was of particular concern, the report said, because studies had shown that girls in that group had a higher susceptibility to rubella.

The report showed that in a national sample of girls aged 16, 71 per cent had been immunised by type of school, the figures had been 72 per cent in comprehensive, grammar and secondary modern schools; 68 per cent in direct grant schools; and only 48 per cent at independent schools.

Improved kidney units will make patients' lives easier

The lives of kidney patients on home dialysis units will be easier as a result of technical advances made by staff at Southmead Hospital, Bristol.

After a year-long study, the hospital's renal unit has succeeded in reducing the size of the complex machinery needed, and has more than halved the cost of converting homes to take supporting facilities. The redesigned equipment can be installed more quickly than before.

The advances were outlined yesterday at the start of National Kidney Research Week by Dr Peter Harrison, a senior registrar at the unit.

The equipment is less than half the size of the old system, mainly because a disposable dialyser unit has been introduced from America.

Patients can prepare and operate the new equipment themselves.

The disposable dialyser contains a series of hollow fibres in which the patient's blood and

"cleaning" fluids are brought together. Southmead technicians have developed a system which allows the dialyser to be used for six sessions.

Dr Harrison said: "I would like to see a time when the kidney patient can sit watching television with the rest of the family without their realising that he is being dialysed."

Improvements in technique and technology are dependent on funds, and the public can make their contribution by supporting the National Kidney Research Week.

Mr Ernest Walker, the Southmead unit's planning officer, said: "In the past 18 months we have increased the number of patients on home dialysis from 27 to 65. We are the only unit in the country which is taking on new people and reducing its waiting list."

He said that in some new hospitals were refusing to dialyse patients aged below 14 and over 45 because of lack of facilities.

Fire damages pier

A fire damaged a bowling alley on Southend pier yesterday. Part of the roof collapsed and two firemen were slightly injured.

Arson inquiry

An inquiry into arson was begun by police yesterday after fire destroyed the east stand at Cradley Heath stadium, Walsworth.

Why ATV didn't show the Daily Mirror commercial last night..

It wasn't sexy. Or violent. Or likely to corrupt anyone. It announced the start of a new Daily Mirror series this morning telling what goes on behind the scenes at the TV talent-spotting show, "New Faces", produced by ATV. Written by Clifford Davis, the Daily Mirror Journalist, who was once a panellist on the programme. Innocent enough? Not for ATV. They refused to screen it. The other contractors took a bolder view and showed our commercial.

Thank you Thames, Granada, Trident, Southern, Anglia, Harlech, Ulster, Border and Westward for putting the independent back in Independent Television.

DAILY MIRROR

فكرنا اننا لنجرب

Big catch
bargain
hunters at
zoo sale

By Alan Hamilton
hundreds
of surplus
zoo animals
are being
sold on the
open market
in Hereford
this week.
The sale is
being held
by the Hereford
Hunting and
Hawking Club.
The animals
are being sold
for a variety
of reasons.
Some are
being sold
because they
are no longer
wanted by
the zoo.
Others are
being sold
because they
are no longer
wanted by
the club.
The sale is
open to the
public and
is a great
opportunity
to see some
of the most
exotic animals
in the world.
The sale is
held every
week and is
a great
opportunity
to see some
of the most
exotic animals
in the world.

Journalists to
get strike plea

ITN deputy editor

dings

Wednesday

هنا من الامم

WEST EUROPE Worldwide terrorist activities are planned and financed by international HQ in Paris

By Michael Frenchman and
Ouis Heron in London and Ian
Lacey in Paris

The kidnapping of Dr Hanns-
Martin Schleyer and the subse-
quent hijacking of the Lufthansa
jetliner over the Mediter-
ranean are seen as further proof
of a phenomenon known to
security services of many coun-
tries as transnational terrorism.
It is known of its organiza-
tion, but it is clear that some
degree of cooperation has been
published between terrorist
groups of various nationalities.

According to one intelligence
agency, the El Al missile affair,
the Entebbe hijacking and the
Paris of the European-based
representatives of the Junta de
Revolucionaria (JCR) to publicize the goals and
activities of their transnational
organization indicate that their
operation is increasing.

It is also believed that the
United Nations resources now at
disposal of some active ter-
rorist groups in Europe and the
growing difficulties encoun-
tered by a number of Latin
American formations make such
operation increasingly advan-
taged.

The Baader-Meinhof group,
known as the Red Army
Faction, sees itself as the agent
of oppressed Asian and Arab
peoples. Hence their collabora-
tion with Third World ter-
rorists.

The Japanese United Red
Army has its own curious
ideology, based in part on the
traditional spirit of Bushido,
it has also cooperated with
Third World terrorists. The
JRA has had contacts with both
yups.

The JCR is composed of
Argentina's Revolutionary Army
(ERP), Bolivia's National
Liberation Army (ELN), Chile's
Movement of the Revolutionary
Front (MIR), Paraguay's
National Liberation Front
(Frente), and the remnants
of Uruguay's National Libera-
tion Movement (MLN/Tupac-
ambato).

Established in 1974 to facili-
tate joint planning, funding,
coordination and support, the
JRA has so far been dependent
on the ERP for most of its
financial and material support.

Dr Richard Clinterbuck, of
Seter University, who makes
a special study of violence and
terrorism, believes that the
JRA raised \$30m (£17m) in
a year before the founding of
JRA. Much of the money was
used by ransoming kidnapped
persons.

Cooperation between the
Latin American terrorist



The cover of a terrorist's
training manual.

groups did not help them to
survive the ruthless counter-
subversion measures adopted
by the ruling military forces
in Chile and more recently in
Argentina. For instance, since
General Videla assumed power
in Argentina 17 months ago
the strength of the Montoneros
has been reduced from a well-
organized military force of
about 7,500 to less than 2,000.

Because of these heavy
losses, many terrorists fled to
Mexico, France, Italy and even
Britain. But the JCR estab-
lished its so-called overseas
headquarters in Paris to
further their cause by discus-
sion, persuasion and violence.

Security services believe that
this headquarters has become
a kind of clearing-house for
transnational terrorism. One of
its aims is believed to secure
the release of affiliated
members who are under deten-
tion in West Europe.

The original JCR "com-
mander-in-chief" was Martinus
Vaca. He had four main group
commanders. One of the best
known was Mario Santucho
(ERP), code-named "Carlos"
(not the "Jackal"), who was
killed in July, 1976.

He was replaced last April
by Arnold Kremer, known by
his fellow terrorists as
"Captain Luis". The other
commanders were: Ruden
Sanchez Valdivia (ELN),
named "Jesus"; Patricio
Antonio Bedman (MIR),
named "Nico"; and Eliseo
Waldemar Como Acosta
(MLN), named "Quique" or
"Barba".

The JCR's chief commanding
officer in Europe is reported
to be Fernando Luis Alvarez,
who is married to Ana Maria
Guevara, sister of one of the
most famous Latin American
revolutionary figures, Che

Guevara. Alvarez, who is known
in the movement as "Pelado",
was last living at Pantin Prin-
cipal, Pantin, near Paris.

The JCR has two operational
wings—internal and external.
The first is devoted to planning
policy and strategy and has
sections dealing with the pro-
motion of JCR itself, propa-
ganda, film-making, tape-
recording, documentation, com-
munications, technical advice
or arms manufacture and
terrorist tactics.

The main role of the external
operational wing is reported to
have been the establishment of
terrorist cells in a number of
countries. They include Bel-
gium, Italy, Mexico, The
Netherlands, Norway, Peru,
Portugal and even Australia.

It also raises funds, and is
said to operate two profitable
drug-peddling rings.

A documentation centre in
Paris forges passports and
identity papers. A number of
these have been seized from
captured terrorists who
returned to Argentina and from
one travelling to Sweden.

The JCR is reported to work
closely with Cuba, which has
provided facilities for military
training as well as funds.
Security services have estab-
lished that communications
with Cuba are maintained by
"letter boxes" in Hamburg
and Milan as well as Paris.

Cuba has provided training
facilities for urban terrorists
and guerrillas. Terrorists have
also been trained in Libya and
North Korea.

Roberto Guevara, the
brother of Che, was a member
of the JCR mission sent to
Lima last year to seek addi-
tional training facilities in
Angola.

Elaborate training manuals
have been published notably by
the Montoneros organization.
Regulations for Organizing
Political Military Activity and
the Military Instruction Manual
range from guerrilla warfare
to urban terrorism, from mak-
ing bombs to enduring torture.

These are the main activities
of the JCR. It is difficult to
assess its efficiency. Romanticism
plays a large part in the
terrorist world, but security
forces believe that its extension
to Europe cannot be dismissed.

A number of terrorists are
known to be linked to the JCR,
among them Carlos Martinez,
otherwise known as "Carlos the
Jackal". A connection with the
IRA has been established, and
contacts have been made with
a left-wing group in Britain.



The scene outside Stammheim Prison, Stuttgart, where five of the eleven West German terrorists whose release is sought by the hijackers are held.

Britain gives support to Germany

By Roger Berthoud

Dr Owen, the Foreign Secre-
tary, said yesterday that the
British Government gave its
"absolutely total support" to
West Germany at a very diffi-
cult time.

He told the Foreign Press
Association in London that he
and Mr Callaghan—who were
due to fly to Bonn today with
other Cabinet ministers for M-
annual consultations—have the
greatest sympathy for Herr
Schmidt, the West German
Chancellor, and his government.
"We are determined to stand
firm with the German people
and to support them whatever
decision they take."

There had been consultations
with Bonn, right from the
moment of the kidnapping of
Dr Schleyer, he said. Where
the British Government could
use its good offices, it had
done so. He himself had seen
Somalia's charge d'affaires in
London yesterday.

"It is in the interests of all
of us in the international com-
munity that this sort of terror-
ism should be stopped," he
said. It could only be stopped
by resolute action by the inter-
national community as a whole.
He was delighted by the
"sane, serious and sensible"
approach of the British press
and people.

Bonn sticks grimly to its decision

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, Oct. 17

West German leaders today
stuck grimly to their silent
refusal to release 11 jailed ter-
rorists as the hijackers of the
Lufthansa's airliner with 87
people on board murdered the
aircraft's pilot.

"The terrorists must give
up," Herr Klaus Bolling, the
Government spokesman, told a
crowded press conference.
Shortly after he spoke the
second deadline set by the
hijackers in Mogadishu passed
at 3 pm (BST) without any
reaction from Bonn. The
Government said later it had
been told in Mogadishu that a
third deadline had been set for
1.30 am (BST) tomorrow.

Herr Bolling, drawn and
ashen after a nightmare vigil
which has lasted since early on
Friday, said the Government
had today discussed the "new
necessary steps" with coalition
and opposition party leaders
and the prime ministers of the
four Länder where the 11 ter-
rorists are held. It was work-
ing in close collaboration with
the Somali Government, he
said, without elaborations.

The Government had the im-
pression, Herr Bolling said,
that the hijackers' pilot, Herr
Jurgen Schumann, aged 37,
was shot by the hijackers
before the airliner left last
night for Mogadishu. (The air-
liner is believed to have been
flown by the co-pilot, Herr
Jurgen Victor.)

Herr Schumann's murder, he
said, showed "what they (the
hijackers) are capable of".

The aim of the Government
continues to be to save the
lives of the hostages.

Herr Schmidt, the Chancel-
lor, had an almost hour-long
conversation with President
Barre of Somalia in which he
explained how dangerous the
terrorists were and how many
murders they had committed
in West Germany. Since the
telephone line was poor, the
main points of the conver-
sation were telefaxed to the
West German Embassy in
Mogadishu and explained by
Herr Hans-Jurgen Wisch-
special envoy, who has been
following the hijacked airliner.

The Government was also in
continuous contact with the
governments of Britain, the
United States and Saudi Ara-
bia. The spokesman indicated
that the Saudi Arabian Govern-
ment had been using its in-
fluence to try and get the hos-
tages released.

The hijackers are believed to
be two Arabs, probably Pales-
tinians, and two West Ger-
mans. One Arab and one West
German are thought to be
women. Besides the 11 jailed
West German terrorists, they
are demanding the release of
two Palestinian guerrillas held
in Turkish prisons. The Tur-
kish Government has said it
will let itself be guided by
Bonn.

The gang is working in col-
laboration with a West German
terrorist group who kidnapped
Dr Hans-Martin Schleyer, the
president of the Industries'
Federation, six weeks ago
today.

Now news has been received
from Herr Schleyer's captors.
The family appealed to the
kidnappers in a message to be
published in Bild newspaper
tomorrow to get into direct
touch with them and indicated
that they were willing to pay a
ransom.

In an oblique attack on the
Government, they said the
responsible authorities had not
been able "to face up to a
decision".

Eleven people were detained
by police in West Berlin after
surprise raids on 38 offices
and homes.

A snap public opinion poll,
published tonight, indicated
that the attitude of the West
German public to the ter-
rorists' demands has softened
considerably with the hijacking
of the aircraft.

Four weeks ago, a fortnight
after Dr Schleyer's kidnapping,
60 per cent were opposed to
giving into the terrorists and
only 22 per cent in favour.
Today, according to the Allens-
bach Institute, the country is
evenly divided, 42 per cent in
favour and 42 per cent against,
with the rest undecided.

Bonn, Oct. 17—Leading
newspapers today backed the
Government's policy of not giv-
ing in. The independent West-
deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung
of Essen commented: "The
government has decided not to
release the jailed terrorists.
This decision is correct."
One simply cannot open
the door to the criminal
practices of terrorists...

French employers project new image

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Oct. 17

A new effort by the tradition-
ally paternalistic and secretive
French employers to give the
public an insight into their
activities is proving a great
success.

About 40,000 people, old and
young, have flocked to see the
two-day "open house" show
staged in Paris by the CNPF,
the employers' federation, as a
prelude to its national congress.
The theme of the congress is
to be "man and industrial
enterprises" and "industrial
enterprises and the com-
munity". Appropriately enough,
the object of the show was to
demonstrate what the employ-
ers had done in spite of the
economic crisis to improve
working conditions.

Among others they impressed
M. Barre, the Prime Minister,
who inaugurated the "open
house" by declaring that
French industry had reached a
turning point and was really
beginning to change. "Work
must not be a servile activity,"
he said, "but must serve the
fulfilment of human beings."

The visitors were shown the
results of about 100 experi-
ments by industrial firms in
vocational training, adjustment
of schedules, keeping employees
informed, and reorganization of
work. All this was staged
against a background of pop
music, laser beams projected on
screen, colour slides and giant
posters.

A tribute to the effectiveness
of the show is paid by L'Human-
ité, the Communist newspaper,
which devotes two columns on
its front page to debunking the
employers' "large-scale offen-
sive".

The fundamental ideas behind
the campaign were expressed
by M. Francois Ceyrac, chair-
man of the CNPF. "To help
man to fulfil himself in indus-
try is to assist him in overcom-
ing the two great evils of our
modern society: anonymity and
irresponsibility," he declared.

It was therefore necessary in
every sphere of industry to pro-
mote activities and organizations
which encouraged confidence in
men. This was primarily the
responsibility of middle manage-
ment "which must not only see
that decisions are carried out
but also inform, consult, assist
and educate."

No wonder the Prime Minis-
ter and others speak of a turn-
ing point in the employers' atti-
tude. The apologia of industrial
decentralization, the implicit
condemnation of big industrial
concentrations and the emphasis
on the virtues of small and
medium enterprises all point to
a radical change in outlook.

Announcing Stone & Webster House

We have moved to new headquarters
on Gray's Inn Road, London.

Keeping pace with continuing
expansion, while bringing our UK
based operations under a single roof,
and with its interior laid out to our own
specifications for greatest efficiency,
the new office equips us better to
serve our clients.



Experience—the foundation for the future
Stone & Webster Engineering Limited,
Stone & Webster House, 236 Gray's Inn Road,
London WC1X 8HA Tel: 01-837 2855 Tx: 299801
Other offices in Netherlands, France,
the USA and Canada.



OVERSEAS



The Queen chats with Mr Jules Léger, Canada's Governor-General, before her speech.

Duke's monkey quip lifts mood of royal tour

From Michael Leapman
Ottawa, Oct 17

With Canadians still digesting the Queen's powerful televised appeal for national unity last night, the Duke of Edinburgh lightened the mood of the royal tour today with a typical royalist quip about the question of the monarchy.

Addressing the Canadian Club, he deplored the "dictatorship of licence" which he believes holds sway over society.

"It is becoming only too apparent," he said, "that it is possible for communities to achieve quite high standards of material development with, at the same time, the moral and behavioural standards of a colony of monkeys."

"We pride ourselves on being more socially conscious, and yet we are making the same elementary mistakes, and quite intelligent people continue to be capable of puerile, selfish,

cruel and destructive behaviour. It is all very confusing."

"The age of social conscience, social justice and concern seems to have coincided with the age of crime, pornography, mugging and international terrorism. What started out as a liberalization of restrictive social conventions seems to have developed into a dictatorship of licence."

Earlier in the speech he criticized today's concept of industrial relations. "Industrial criteria have influenced every other part of human experience," he observed. Horse racing and breeding has become the bloodstock industry; music and drama, together with television and film, are now part of the entertainment industry; the churches are said to be marketing a product.

"Any group of people who withdraw their contribution to the needs of society, be they nurses or coalminers, are said

to be taking industrial action. Defence equipment has to be cost effective and education has become a process for investing in the human resource and producing an article to meet the needs of industry."

The Queen was looking at education today as well. She visited an Ottawa school to see a French class for English-speaking children, in which the pupils are taught in French from a very early age.

This is part of the federal Government's programme to multilingualism, particularly in Quebec, who complain that French is treated as a second-class language. Canada's two languages and many cultures have been emphasized at the engagements the Queen has attended here.

Her speech last night was in both English and French, as was the concert she attended

on Saturday. M René Lévesque, the Premier of Quebec, was expected later today to react unfavourably to the speech, with its strong appeal to Canadians to remain a united people.

M Lévesque had already expressed a hope that the Queen's visit would not be used for political purposes by Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Prime Minister, who in a weekend interview described M Lévesque as an enemy of Canada who "represents the destruction of my country."

Earlier today the Queen visited the headquarters of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, where she met members who had been at her Coronation, saw some horses in training, and was greeted by excited children of school children. There has been a large and more enthusiastic crowd to watch her as her visit has progressed

Victoria power pay decision today

From Our Correspondent
Melbourne, Oct 17

The Arbitration Commission will give its decision today on the pay claims of 2,000 power maintenance workers in Victoria whose nine-week strike ended last Thursday. The strike seriously affected Victoria's power supply and employment situation.

Half an hour after the decision is known tomorrow the power workers will meet in the Latrobe Valley in eastern Victoria to vote on the commission's decision.

The strike severely affected Melbourne and the entire state of Victoria. The use of electricity and been restricted and many companies have had to use their own generators for power. Industry has had virtually no power for three weeks except from privately owned generators. Many thousands of workers have been laid off.

All the maintenance workers involved work in the Latrobe Valley, which is the centre of the state's power. The valley is situated on a vast deposit of coal.

The cause of the men's dis-

content is based on a large gap between their pay and the pay of other less skilled workers of the State Electricity Commission. For example, while a skilled maintenance tradesman earns about \$A162 (\$101) a week a storeman with three months' experience might earn slightly more. Added to this, the Latrobe Valley is a community in which every breadwinner knows his neighbour and what his neighbour earns.

Nine weeks ago the State Electricity Commission maintenance workers went on strike in a claim for \$A40 to compensate them for the increases won by other Latrobe Valley workers.

The Commission and the state Government replied that the claim was outside wage indexation guidelines which were strictly speaking true, but left a dangerous question about wage indexation unanswered. That is: What is to be done about workers who feel they were badly behind before the system was brought in? Wage indexation guidelines were brought in 1975, which was after the storemen and packers had won

a pay increase of \$A23.

The metal trades maintenance workers were more skilled but had missed their chance and under the new system were unable to make a claim. There was however the possibility of an "anomalies conference". This was part of the new system, to be used only in exceptional circumstances.

There was a complete deadlock between the workers and the Commission. Moves to end the deadlock were constantly thwarted. Three weeks ago it was agreed that the only avenue left was an anomalies conference and later the men agreed to return to work.

The effects so far have been that 2,300 workers have lost about \$A2,000 each, 500,000 other Victoria workers have been laid off and Victoria's industry has lost millions of dollars in production.

But one union official said: "The real casualty is the Latrobe Valley. A long strike means life-threatening loss for years. Relationships between the Commission, the workers and the wider community are now almost beyond repair."

Libya denies aiding Muslim rebels in Philippines

Zamboanga City, Oct 17.—According to Philippine Government sources, Muslim rebels in three separate attacks yesterday killed five soldiers and wounded 11, including the commander of an infantry battalion. The Libyan ambassador, replying to the resumption of violence, denied that his country was giving the rebels support.

In Manila, Mr Lorenzo Cruz, director of the Bureau of National and Foreign Information, said five rebels ambushed a military vehicle, killing two soldiers and wounding two, in Baloi, Lanao del Norte, 150 miles north-east of Zamboanga. Colonel Ramon Neri, commander of the 29th Infantry Battalion, was one of those wounded.

Rear Admiral Romulo Espaldon, chief of the South Coast command, here, told of "heavy fighting" 25 miles north of Zamboanga where rebels attacked an army post.

Three soldiers were killed and wounded in the clash, which lasted until this morning.

Colonel Neri was driving to command headquarters when the rebels opened fire in the attack at Baloi, Mr Cruz said. He suffered minor injuries.

Mr Mustafa Dreiza, the Libyan Ambassador, told a press conference in Manila that the resumption of violence was an obstacle to the peace negotiations in the southern Philippines.

The Government has accused Libya of financially and morally supporting the Muslim rebels. Mr Dreiza denied this, saying Libyan support to Muslims had been channelled through the Philippine Government.

No Islamic country intended financing guerrilla activities in this area against the martial law regime of President Marcos, he said.

Thai troops turn back invasion by Khmer Rouge

Bangkok, Oct 17.—Thai Marines and border patrol police pushed invading Cambodian troops back into Thailand during a weekend offensive, military spokesmen said today.

The fighting left two Thai soldiers dead and 10 wounded, the officials said. They claimed about 10 Cambodians were killed and many wounded.

Officers said that plans for an all-out offensive, including heavy artillery and bombing strikes, were called off when the marine and police force pushed back the Cambodians. The Khmer Rouge had moved into south-eastern Thailand's Kong Yai district, 205 miles from Bangkok, last Wednesday.

Military sources believed the incursion was a local matter, not ordered or encouraged by the Phnom Penh Government.—UPI.

Ruling party's man wins Nicosia seat

Nicosia, Oct 17.—Mr George Ladas, the candidate of the majority Democratic Party, won a by-election for the Nicosia seat vacated by Mr Spyros Kyprianou when he became President.

Mr Ladas, a lawyer, had the support of the Communists and Socialists who have been in an electoral alliance with the centre-right Democratic Party since the general election last year.

Mr Ladas polled 45,436 votes and his opponent, Mr Ioannis Matsis, of the right-wing Democratic Rally, received 25,225, a 10 per cent increase in his party's share at the general election. The Democratic Party won 21 of the 35 seats at stake in the general election.—Reuters.

Chilean plan urges return to democracy

Santiago, Oct 17.—The outlawed Christian Democratic Party has issued a political declaration proposing a national movement of democratic restoration to replace Chile's military regime with a constitutional government.

The declaration does not attack the armed forces, which have maintained an authoritarian regime in power since the overthrow of President Allende in September 1973, but it rejects the plan of President Pinochet to retain personal power for at least eight more years.

It calls for a gradual transfer of power to an elected, civilian government, but says the process should begin immediately with termination of the state of siege. The military junta has outlawed all political parties that were operating when the armed forces overthrew the left-wing Allende Government. Political declarations or assemblies are prohibited.

Despite the restrictions, news of the declaration was published by several newspapers in brief items based on press agency dispatches from Caracas, where Chilean radio stations, Radio Cooperativa and Radio Chilena, gave somewhat fuller accounts in news broadcasts.

The declaration calls on all Chileans, including members of the armed forces, to affirm respect for democratic government and to work in a national movement, above political parties, for restoration of constitutional guarantees for human rights and an elected government.

The Christian Democrats are considered the largest single political party in Chile and governed from 1964 to 1970 under President Frei. Señor Frei, who lives in Chile, formed the party leadership that adopted the declaration. Although the Christian

Democrats strongly opposed the Marxist tendencies of the Allende Government, President Pinochet has blamed all five former political parties for the Chilean crisis of 1973, and he is particularly antagonistic towards Señor Frei and the Christian Democrats.

The declaration rejects any armed resistance or illegal conspiracy against the military government. This course is not historically suitable today and only offers Chileans new and unforeseeable sufferings, it said.

But the Christian Democrats reject General Pinochet's political plan under which the junta would remain in absolute power until 1980 and he would hold only limited elections then under a new constitution imposed by decree.

The declaration suggests that a constitutional assembly should be elected in a year to reform the Chilean constitution of 1925 and adopt a new electoral law.

Social Focus

The case for ending the stigma of illegitimacy

During the last century the illegitimate child was commonly referred to in law as *filius nullius*, son of nobody, and subject by society to the most ferocious and inhumane discrimination.

In 1977 attitudes have mellowed to such an extent that not only do the majority of unmarried couples keep their babies but fewer opt to marry the father when given the opportunity. Just over 10 years ago there were 172 mother and baby homes throughout the country, now there are 56.

Yet despite the lessening of prejudice, the National Council for Our Parents Families considers there is an urgent need to abolish the stigma of illegitimacy altogether, as in New Zealand and Sweden. Today they publish a new document on illegitimacy, proposing reforms that would end existing forms of discrimination by the law.

It is wrong that a person should be treated in an inferior way simply because of an 'accident' of birth, the council says. "Discrimination against a person because of his sex, race or colour is no longer considered in a civilized society. It should also be accepted that discrimination against a person because of the marital status of his parents is equally uncivilized."

Despite changes in the laws relating to illegitimacy over the past 50 years, Mrs Jennifer Levin, the lawyer who drew up the report, considers that there are still several anomalies long overdue for reform. Unlike the legitimate child, who very rarely has to prove his legitimacy, the illegitimate child has no help in establishing paternity. As in the last century, he is still legally not presumed to be the child of anyone, though nowadays he can usually prove maternity.

Equally, the unmarried father has no automatic parental rights regarding the child. He can, like the divorced or separated father, go to court and apply for access and, in very rare cases, custody. If the mother objects to access, then the father has a very slim chance of its being awarded, according to Mr Duhan Berber, author of *Unmarried Fathers*, and himself illegitimate.

"In any case 90 per cent of unmarried fathers do not bother to go to court, either because they don't want to, or because they simply don't know it's possible," he says.

Mr Berber sees the recent decision by Sir George Baker, President of the Family Division of the High Court, to let a young unmarried father have access to his son, despite the mother's objections, as a sympathetic move in the right direction.

"As long as the law treats the unmarried father as nobody, it is bound to behave like a nobody towards his child," says Mrs Levin, who is also chairman of the council's legal

and social policy committee and Senior Lecturer in Law at Queen Mary College, London.

If illegitimacy were abolished both parents would enjoy the same rights given now to married couples, providing the father acknowledged or was presumed by a court to be the child's father. This change would also mean that unmarried mothers would not be able to have the child adopted without the father's consent, as is the case now, and he would have all the rights of a parent if the mother died. At present he has none.

The most practical result of the council's proposals in respect of parental rights would be those regarding maintenance. At present the unmarried mother can only get an order for a weekly or monthly sum, which is paid to her directly, as an order cannot be made in favour of an illegitimate child.

"This obviously has great disadvantages from the point of view of tax concessions. If a mother is receiving social security, she can find this is cut because of the payments," says Mrs Levin. "Affiliation orders are also carried out in an air of suspicion. If a man denies paternity the mother is supposed to prove the truth of her relationship is not sufficient. It must be corroborated."

One unmarried mother who applied for an affiliation order where the father did not deny paternity, still found it an unpleasant experience. "It really was a case of washing your filthy linen in public," she said. "The questions were all so personal and so unnecessary I felt in my particular case. Nobody was denying anything, there was no need to prove it."

The council's report suggests that if illegitimacy itself is abolished then so should affiliation proceedings, to be replaced ultimately by a new Child Maintenance Act. Under this all children, regardless of the parents' marital status, would be treated alike and orders be made payable to the child or custodian.

To abolish illegitimacy it will obviously be necessary to abolish the present presumption of legitimacy and replace it with a presumption of maternity. The law, says the council, should encourage the registration of paternity as much as possible, first by providing simple records in which paternity could be acknowledged and recorded and secondly by presuming maternity in situations where it is highly likely.

The council considers that a person should be presumed to be the father where

he is named on the birth certificate; where he makes a signed acknowledgment of paternity; where the parents were living together throughout the possible period of conception and, of course, where both parents were married to each other and not separated at the possible time of conception.

Probably one of the more controversial suggestions in the report concerns the registration of a child's birth. At present, if a couple are married, only one need register the birth. "The present process is a very casual one," says Mrs Levin, "the registration of a birth should be a much more solemn ceremony than it is now."

The council suggests that where possible both parents should register the birth and that in the unavoidable absence of one perhaps a standard form could be produced which would have to be signed as an acknowledgment of paternity-maternity before the birth was registered. If an unmarried father refused to sign, the mother could go to court and get an order which would presume paternity under the circumstances suggested by the council.

Some unmarried mothers may not want the father's name on the birth certificate but the council maintains that as the child's interests are paramount, the father should have the right to register his name. If the mother denies the man's paternity, a court could then decide the issue, again on a presumption of paternity.

The importance of having the father's name on the child's birth certificate cannot be underestimated, say the council. It has the greatest psychological benefit in providing the child with his full identity. Also, although an illegitimate child can inherit if a natural parent dies intestate (Family Law Reform Act, 1969), he still has to prove his identity and a name on a birth certificate would greatly simplify an otherwise complex situation.

These, and the other recommendations in the report, will eventually be presented to the Law Commission's Working Party on Illegitimacy, which was established earlier this year. First the council will wait for reaction to their report and modify it if necessary.

Both Mrs Levin and Mrs Margaret Bramall, director of the council, admit that changes in the law will not remove any remaining prejudice overnight but are convinced that it will promote consistency and uniformity, enabling the minister to give directions on policy and issue circulars on practice and procedure.

If, as has been suggested, a new Department of Justice, headed by a director, should be established under the control of the Attorney General, some thought must be given to how his duties will be reconciled with those of the Home Secretary who has the overall responsibility for public order and the enforcement of the law by the police.

The Attorney General himself in March this year told Parliament: "The question of the reform of the prosecution system is for the Home Secretary." Mercifully, few reformers have gone so far as to advocate the appointment of a Minister of Justice to the Home Office.

It is true that a national prosecution service would be independent of the police, but it would certainly not be independent of the responsible Government minister. Indeed, it is claimed as one of the advantages of having a central authority that it would promote consistency and uniformity, enabling the minister to give directions on policy and issue circulars on practice and procedure.

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Should private prosecutions be abolished?

attention. Mr Raymond Blackburn has taken action against pornographers, Mr Francis Bennion against those who have conspired to disrupt sporting events, and Mrs Mary Whitehouse against the publishers of blasphemy.

Perhaps the outstanding illustration of any individual, with no backing, making a stand against the authorities was afforded by police constable Joy in 1974. He had reported a motorist—who happened to be a Member of Parliament—for failing to comply with a stop sign and refusing to give a sample of his breath.

Nevertheless, the right of the citizen to ensure that the law is enforced is not unrestricted. The Prosecution of Offences regulations now list some 95 separate offences which may be prosecuted only by, or with the consent of, the Attorney General or the Director of Public Prosecutions.

It is a heterogeneous list and, as Lord Dilhorne once said, it is difficult to find any intelligible principle on which it was compiled.

No doubt the Royal Commission, when reviewing the growing number of offences which cannot be prosecuted without official approval, will wish to consider how far the general public ought to be concerned in the enforcement of the law and whether the time has now come to weaken or abandon altogether the constitutional principle of the Attorney General's approval of the Royal Commission on the Police in 1962. "It is," they declared, "the right and duty of each citizen to preserve the peace and bring malefactors to justice."

One of the main arguments for taking prosecutions out of the hands of the police and placing them in the hands of private citizens is that the police are not trained officials and are not liable as the police to bring prosecutions where the evidence is insufficient to secure a conviction. It should not be thought that the police are a legally qualified staff comparable in size to that of the Director of Public Prosecutions.

The police are able to obtain advice from lawyers in the service of the local authority or in private practice.

It is of the first importance to ensure that the decision to bring a person before a criminal court is not taken in an arbitrary or irresponsible manner. Can it, then, be said that there are so many unfounded prosecutions that there is an overwhelming case for reforming the existing system?

At first glance, the number of acquittals does not seem alarming. In the magistrates' courts where the vast majority of offences are prosecuted, 93 per cent of the charges result in convictions. In the Crown courts, where the more serious offenders are brought to trial, 83 per cent are convicted, the majority pleading guilty. In recent years, however, it has become a matter of much concern both to lawyers and to the police that half the accused who contest their guilt at Crown courts are acquitted. If there have been faulty decisions in having such cases committed to Crown courts might they have been obviated by public prosecutors?

Before any conclusion can be reached it will be necessary to ascertain how many of the acquittals resulted from cases brought by or on behalf of the Director of Public Prosecutions, how many were authorized by solicitors in the employ of Government departments and the police, and how many were taken by the police

without or against legal advice. Much information on this subject will be available when the Institute of Judicial Administration of the University of Birmingham reports to the Home Office later this year on the research it has conducted in contested trials at Crown courts.

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least. Up to 50.0mpg* from the specially developed '930' engine; up to 41.5mpg* from the '1300'; up to 41.0mpg* from even the sporty '1600' unit, which takes you up to 95mph.

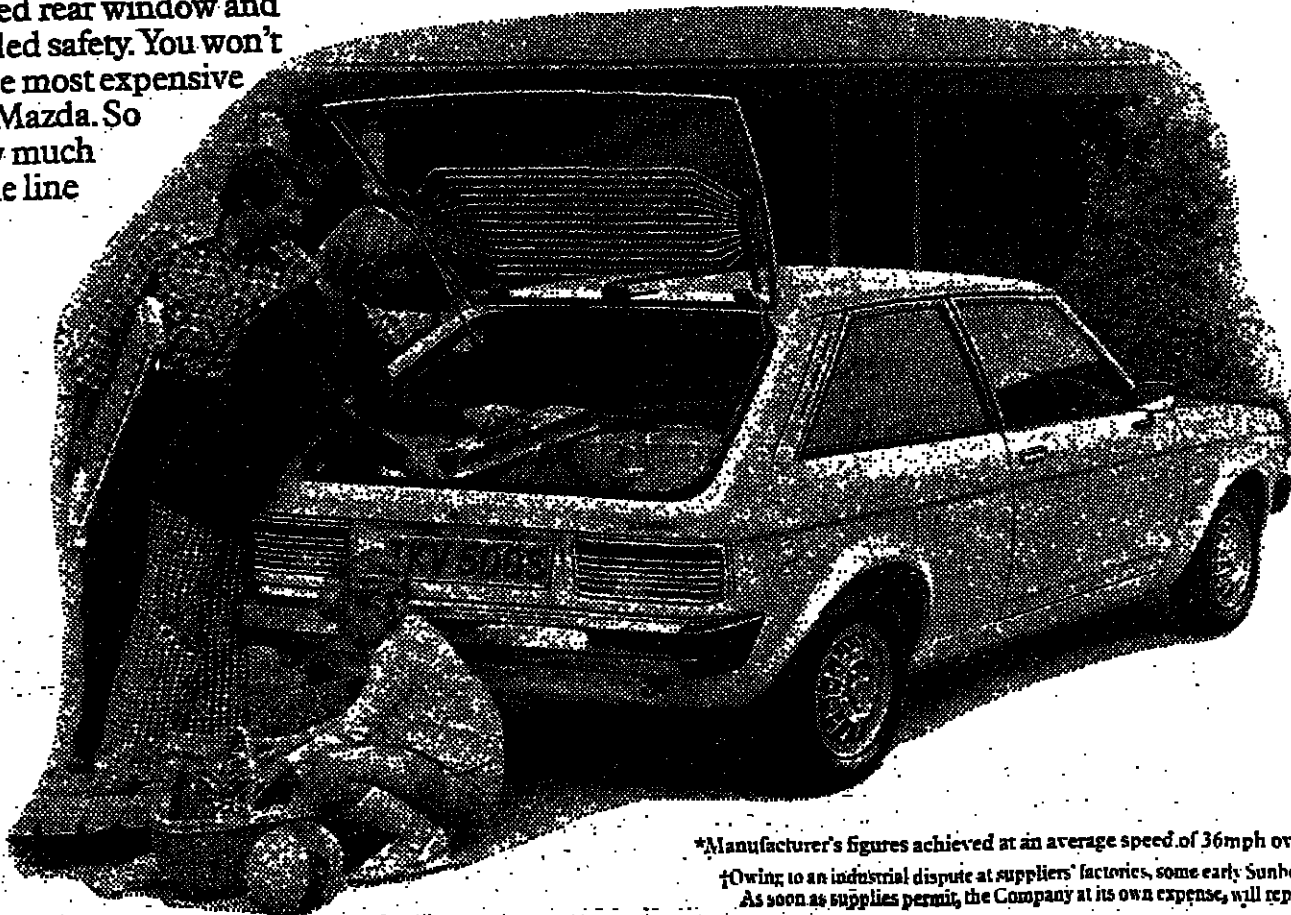
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THE NEW CHRYSLER Sunbeam



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†Owing to an industrial dispute at suppliers' factories, some early Sunbeam models have been built without electronic ignition.
As soon as supplies permit, the Company at its own expense, will replace the existing ignition with electronic equipment.

It's the fools, not the Don't Knows who
scare the daylights out of me

the Israeli-occupied West Bank; and on the farthest of those hills, you can just make out three towers, fractionally distorted by the breeze. They are the three towers of the telegraph poles. They are the first spires of the city of Jerusalem. On other days—though the sky may be cloudless and the heat as intense—a warm breeze will drift over the Dead Sea and a mist will rise to obscure those distant spires. It is on such days that you can see, on most days you can see a tourist or two, standing on the dark, stained beach, who will stare

Men will believe what they want to believe, irrespective of the facts. "If I were accused of stealing the

Nationalization of the banks, and abolition of the House of Lords, have recently been in the news; those who pay scant attention to public affairs may be readily forgiven if, asked what has recently been suggested concerning those projects, and by whom, they were unable to give a coherent answer. The fact is that the people who were wholly ignorant, or at any rate confused, on the party of trades union policy, or its attitude to East-West détente, but around whom people who believe that the Tories stand for better relations with the East have been gathered, are still a well of ignorance so thick and high that trying to surmount it

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Mr Carter (left), Mr Sadat and Mr Gromyko : pulling strings in the Middle East.

Mr Labadi had, of course, said no such thing but Tunnell's interview was very important. Labadi had made clear that the PLO would accept the kind of Palestinian representation at Geneva.

draws a picture of Mr Arab zigzagging on skates towards Geneva while a myriad of Arab looks on.

These weeks have been dramatic for the Arabs. Their gradual but continuing retreat towards American influence—or tutelage if you are a hard-headed realist—has been anticipated and not prepared for the elastic perimeters being constructed around Syria by the United States.

In the years the Egyptians and Syrians have been plotting against Israel, the United States has been plotting against Israel and this, the upshot of this rigid, easy concept is a very painful prospect.

SYOPE, whose citizens have been so familiar with their President's expansive public gestures of conciliation towards Israel, has been taken aback by the unexpected White House latest American-Soviet initiative was announced, the

Foreign Minister, Mr. **Mr. Yassir Arafat**, could only say that the Russian concession was "a major endorsement" of the Arab position. For example, of Israel's exchange of notions with Arab leaders as "a stunning blow to the Arabs."

He also said the Arab position was so far removed from Mr. Carter's manoeuvres that it was "internal rather than international." Since President Carter's compromise with the Russians is constantly being overthrown by his own actions, Mr. Fahmy was quick to add that Mr. Gromyko, the Russian Minister, had said: "The United Arab Republic United Nations intentions only are the superpower content."

President Assad's increasingly association with the Americans, he

made a statement to the effect that Mr. Carter's proposals were "more serious" than those of previous Washington administrations. But he safeguarded his prestige in the event of a political collapse by adding that only a miracle could avert a new Middle East war.

The Palestinians have been reacting in an even more confusing manner. When the Israelis made it clear that they would accept Palestinian representation in Geneva, they were not known members of the PLO. The PLO was anxious as always not to be associated with anything that the West Bank mayors might represent the Palestinians at a peace conference even if they were not PLO members. The Israelis seemed to be an immediate concourse of opinion and it was to create a very

repercussions appear in the form of a letter last week.

It started mould Labadi's opinion in an interview with Tunnell, the casting System. Tunnell asked Mr. Labadi's opinion regarding it. The Palestinian in Geneva to Mr. Labadi's opinion. Mr. Labadi's opinion was to choose our own choice. The PLO is to represent the choice people. The choice people are the mayors of the Gaza Strip. To ensure the choice of the state.

the Israelis would accept. The fact that the PLO cannot be a part of the peace process is like the largest impediment to peace in Egypt and Syria, a tribute to President Carter's ability to break up the mortal hostility in Arab politics by promoting a peace process. The lack of policy, he has perceived, both Arabs and Israelis to continue along the path toward Geneva.

But the great danger in this will become apparent, or so when the Geneva summit is held. For if the Arabs are created flexibility is not represented by the Israelis. He is found wanting—there is a question of the security of the guards of the Arab spokesmen will still the criticism since their people. And if the power of Arab leaders their business apart, it will be President Carter's fault.

Robert F.

for more information contact:

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Sing a song of

Odd bin out

It was Lord Carrington, president of the National Union of Conservative and Unionist Associations, who started it. On the final day of the Tories' conference at the Grosvenor Hotel, he nodded to the chairman, who was sitting at his side, and said: "David Selts—or, as *The Times*, in intelligent anticipation of his days ago, called him, Mr. Selts."

The old boys of St Paul's Cathedral Choir School are holding a series of meetings this month to raise money among themselves to endow choral scholarships for their successors. The music at Paul's costs £2,000 a week, a little more than most choir schools, it is feeling the pinch. The old boys are grateful for their first-rate musical education as supplied canonically in London's parish church wa-

He is coming to announce the publication next year of a new quarterly called *Quarterly* which will translate such neologisms as happenstantial into English for us almost before they have happened. The

fluence on language has shifted in the language of mass communication from the "best" writers to those with the largest audience.

For a subscription of £7.00 a year, Mr. Urdang's wordscouts will supply professional wordsmen with the latest terminology culled from a wide selection of mass publications from all over the English-speaking world. The first issue in January will deal with such myrmecisms as the difference between top and bottom quart, and the fuzzifying of the Hickering blue parent.

The chorister, musical director of the English National Opera, who was head chorister almost 50 years ago, is leading the campaign. He has the happiest memories of his surprise day from great state services, roller-skating down Carter Lane towed by a master's Trojan.

The choristers, as boys, were used to complain about the food. Dean Inge once told them that their food must be better than his: the City rascal had caught 35 huge rats in his choir school, and a solitary hen starved church mouse in the Deanery.

Other astounding experiments I will carry out with my mice. Giza include preserving apple, removing nasty chemicals from my coffee and wine and keeping a loaf fresh for seven weeks.

say that Oddbins' price for Chateau Fourcas Hosten '65 is £4.14, whereas the traditional wine merchants Corney & Barrow, who might not like to be thought of as a bargain basement, charge only £2.56.

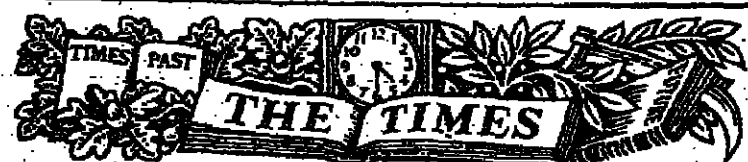
"Skeleton for sale—as new" says a poster at Jesus College, Oxford.

The idea is that new words and new meanings are coming into English so fast that they lie around for years, creating stumbling-blocks before they are dealt with in a dictionary. Mr Urdang believes that

Students at the University of C asked by Mr L. R. C. Agnew, of history, for their advice on the has syphilis, the mother tuberc children—the first blind, the st dumb—the fourth has tuberculo ber fifth child and the parents if you so decide." Mr Agnew's favour of abortion. He then to have just murdered Beethoven.

Florida, Los Angeles, have been the department of medical following situation: "The father is blind. They have had four children and died, the third is deaf and dumb. The mother is pregnant with a fourth child. They are willing to have an abortion—most of the students voted in favor of them." Congratulations—you

Big catch
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THE TIMES TUESDAY OCTOBER 18 1977

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A WORTHLESS GOVERNMENT

The present regime in Czechoslovakia is a burden on East-West relations as well as on its own people. Its internal policies and the trials which started yesterday are so clearly contrary to everything the Helsinki agreement stands for that its international relations are bound to suffer. By next spring it will have been in power for nine years but it still lives under the shadow of the invasion of August, 1968, which gradually destroyed the popular reforms of the Dubcek regime. It still has the improvised and defensive look of a regime thrust into power by outside forces. It has achieved no popularity in the country, not even of the grudging kind accorded to some other east European regimes which are seen to be struggling within the limits of the possible to improve the lot of their people. It reacts to every manifestation of dissent with a nervous hysteria which can spring only from weakness. Its press is the crudest in eastern Europe. It seems to feel that it cannot open even the smallest chink in the dam it has built lest the floodwaters of opposition come rumbling through.

Its assessment may well be correct, but if so it has only itself

to blame. The Czechs and Slovaks are mature and stable people. Even under Soviet occupation they would probably have responded to a government which appeared to be doing its best. Indeed, many reformists supported the choice of Dr Husak as party leader in the belief that he was the man to save whatever could be saved of the reforms of his predecessor. For whatever reasons of politics and personal ambition he has disappointed them. Now he is further debased by the vindictive and unconvincing trial of men regarded by practically everyone outside his embattled circle as a credit to their country.

Mr Vaclav Havel is a playwright with a well-deserved international reputation. Mr Ota Cernek is internationally known as a theatre director. Mr Jiri Lederer is a lawyer, and Mr Frantisek Pavlicek a former member of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak party, are well enough known in their own country for their patriotism to be in little doubt. If a fair and open trial were to find them guilty of some quite unexpected and uncharacteristic activity opinions of them would have to be revised but the closing of the trial to a lawyer from Paris already seems to rule out this

possibility. The verdict of the world is therefore likely to be that these men are being tried for simple political dissent which may have included passing wholly true and non-secret information out of the country.

To call this "preparing to damage state interests abroad", which is the charge against Mr Havel, is to enter a looking-glass world. It is the state which is damaging its own interests with this trial whereas Mr Havel and the others are promoting its interests by demonstrating that there are still people in Czechoslovakia willing to fight for the human right to behave in what ought to be a perfectly normal manner. All they claim is the right of speaking, moving and exchanging information freely. In Belgrade at the moment Dr Husak's own officials are supposed to be working to promote these rights with officials from the thirty-four other signatories of the Helsinki agreement. The trial does nothing for their credibility, and if the sentences are anything but token it is difficult to see how Czechoslovakia will be able to avoid political isolation in Europe. Even their fellow Communist governments must be somewhat ashamed of them.

THE SHORT WAY TO DISCREDIT UNIONS

The Grunwick mass picket, which has resumed yesterday, has become an embarrassment and even a threat to the British trade union movement. Apex, the union most directly involved, perceived the dangers long ago, and even before the worst scenes of disorder last June was vainly trying to reduce the number of pickets to 500 (a figure already far larger than the total number of workers employed at Grunwick's). Apex also opposed the resumption of mass picketing. The leaders of the union judge quite rightly that such methods can achieve nothing for the strikers to warrant the attendant dangers. Indeed, success through mass picketing might be a far greater misfortune for the movement than failure.

The picketing passed off with relatively little violence yesterday. That is to say that only five arrests were made, compared to the fifty or seventy made on the worst days of June and July. The numbers involved yesterday were substantially greater than on any previous day, except the rally of July 11, when about 20,000 people were present. The numbers show that Grunwick retains its force as a symbolic issue for the movement. It had obviously been impressed on the participants that

outbreaks of violence would do more harm than good. There was no serious attempt to prevent the works bus from crossing the picket-line, or even to terrify its occupants.

The result exposes the fundamental ambiguity of the mass picket. After July 11 the strike committee had a film made which represented as a great victory the fact that force of numbers had made it impossible to get the bus through on that day (until the demonstrators moved off, at least). An assembly of thousands contradicts the idea of a picket as recognized in law: it is not more but less able than a group of twenty to persuade employees still at work to join forces with the strikers. Towards the workers in the laboratories, a mass picket must be essentially a weapon of intimidation. When it was nakedly so, they were able to endure it. After what the company have gone through, the new mild-mannered picket is not likely to be a serious vexation.

In fact the new campaign is aimed less at the company than over their heads at other trade unionists. There is little appetite now for the violent or illegal tactics that would probably be needed to force Grunwick to give way. The TUC was slow to appreciate the dangers of the affair. In June, several days

after Apex had called for a limit of 500 and the daily score of arrests had risen to a dozen or more, the TUC general council was still urging unions to intensify their support. But now it has been chastened by experience. Sheer weight of numbers is unlikely to shame it back into its former tactics. If it is not open to such pressure, the weekly assemblies in Cricklewood are futile—as those giving up a day's work to participate are likely to perceive better and better.

But the muted style of yesterday's picket does not diminish the essential dangers of this kind of action. When people are crowded together in such numbers, excited by a cause and in sight of their opponents, even individuals who would never act violently on their own can be drawn into conflict. People with an interest in stirring up violence are drawn to such occasions. Once it begins, uproar seems to grow uncontrollably of its own accord. The public will see the fighting on television and remember it when the details of the dispute have been forgotten. The mass picket is the surest way the labour movement has of presenting itself as a riotous and intolerant force in our society.

HAVE PRIESTS ANY DUTY TO OBEY?

In July 1975 the General Synod of the Church of England adopted the view that there are no fundamental objections to the ordination of women to the priesthood. It was however unable to decide how to proceed from there beyond passing the matter to the bishops who were to bring it back again when they judged the time to be ripe "in the light of developments in the Anglican community generally as well as in this country". The bishops propose to raise the matter again in synod in the autumn of 1978. In the meantime the Lambeth Conference will have met, allowing for a closer assessment of how the matter stands in other parts of Anglican communion.

In the United States, Canada and Hongkong authorized priesthood of women in the Anglican churches has already taken place. In Australia and New Zealand moves favourable to its introduction are in train. In Africa there is no matching tendency. In the provinces of Canterbury and York opinion remains sharply divided, and the practical difficulties, many possibly a diminishing number, do not give with the proposition that there are no fundamental objections to women priests. Many more are in this matter "inopportunists", being favourable or neutral towards the innovation but opposed to its immediate adoption.

They see that it would retard

ecumenical relations with the Roman Catholic and Orthodox churches. It is not to be doubted that that would be its effect since the Pope and Eastern Patriarchs have so advised Canterbury. In the long term however (in which is the most suitable perspective in which to consider Christian unity) particular differences of practice and even of doctrine probably matter less than the way in which those differences which are to count as obstacles to unity are distinguished from those differences which are not to count as obstacles. It is possible that the priesthood of women may come to be seen in the ecumenical context as a secondary issue concerning church organization and the social milieu into which it fits.

The inopportunists also judge that the early authorization of a female priesthood would divide the Church of England and perhaps impair its structural unity. Their judgment that to ordain women would be productive of more disunity and injury of conscience within the church than to decline to ordain them is likely to be correct. But they are judging a flux. What can be said of it today with a reasonable degree of probability may not hold in a couple of years' time.

The Church of England is not rigidly set in relation to this issue. Its deliberative organs, clerical and lay, diocesan and central, are seized of it. It will

come up again for decision in twelve months. Opinion and decision elsewhere in the Anglican communion moves in a way that is favourable to the making of women priests. The tendency receives nourishment in England from a climate which makes easy the association of the causes of feminism and civil rights.

These considerations aggravate the offence of the two Church of England incumbents who, in deliberate defiance of the discipline of their church, last week arranged for the Rev Alison Palmer, a woman ordained in the Episcopal Church of the United States, publicly to celebrate holy communion in their parish churches. They were in breach both of canon law and of the rule that the consent of the archbishop of the province is required before such an invitation is acted upon. The offence is clear: the punitive sanctions available to the church authorities are not. But the punitive road is not one they are likely to wish to tread. They may hope rather to persuade other incumbents contemplating a similar gesture that obedience to authority is not the least of Christian duties, especially in a voluntary organization, especially in a voluntary organization like a church where the clergy are explicitly bound by that duty, and especially in a church like the Church of England whose machinery for pondering and effecting change is in working order.

Future energy sources

From Mr T. D. R. Harrison
Sir, Increasingly we see reported in your columns and your editorial the need for urgent decisions to be made for the development of nuclear power. Mr Cunningham, Under Secretary of State for Energy, now joins Messrs Chapple and Lyons in would not for one minute discount that perhaps in the future there will be a need for a nuclear power programme, what I cannot understand is the need for URGENT action in making this decision.

We are fortunate that we have enough coal to supply electric power for many years to come. We have enough oil and gas to meet our requirements well into 2000. Our trade competitors do not have these advantages. Why not let them make the mistakes in the race for safe economic nuclear generation? They will surely have learnt from our white elephants, i.e. Dungeness and Windscale, a costly folly.

The Barony of Eure

From Mr Mark Blackett-Ord
Sir, Anyone hoping to claim the Barony of Eure (Philip Howard, The Times, October 10), by the same arguments as revived the Wharton barony is relying on the House of Lords Committee of Privileges being startlingly generous again. Their decision in 1916 that the Wharton peerage was not created by patent but was "in fee" (and so could pass to females) is flatly contradicted by historical evidence. On March 20, 1544 the Earl of Hertford told Henry VIII he had "delivered to the Lords Eure and Wharton your Majesty's Letters Patents, by which it hath pleased your Highness to create and make them Barons". If this is not evidence of patents, what is? It shows that the Eure barony is now as extinct as the Wharton one, which properly died with the poor drunk Duke of Wharton in 1732, ought to be.

Doing away with the NEB

From Mr Michael Grylls, MP for Surrey, North West (Conservative)
Sir, In your leader (October 10) on the Tory document Right Approach to the Economy, you say our commitment to do away with the National Enterprise Board is a "misapprehension" because all governments face industrial situations which require some machinery outside Whitehall.

Of course, there will be cases of exceptional strategic importance such as Rolls-Royce, that demand government action—although in the case of Rolls-Royce it was done by an Act of Parliament and not by machinery outside Whitehall.

A legal definition of death

From Mr Ian Kennedy
Sir, It was with regret and a sense of resignation that I read the various reports on the tragic case of Carol Wilkinson, including your own (The Times, October 14 and 15). Some sort of intellectual lockjaw seems to pervade those who comment on the medico-legal issue of death, so that no amount of development in the area persuades them that the problems they perceive, lack any real substance. We have once more been forced to read, and listen to, expressions such as: "technically dead", "clinically dead"; all of them designed to perpetuate the myth that there is some sort of intermediate stage between life and death peculiar to patients on respirators.

Somerset House

From Mr Henry Moore, OM, CH, FBA, and others
Sir, What is to become of Somerset House? The London and the Thames Exhibition Committee state that the building unquestionably provides a magnificent setting for paintings. We believe the Great Room could be used as a permanent home for a very small proportion of the Turner oils (between 50 and 100 depending on size) which at present are not on public view. The School of Painting could be an ideal setting for a changing selection of his watercolours and there are facilities for some of his drawings to be made accessible on request.

the Queen's Gallery, Burlington House. We feel the problems have been greatly overstated and with good will can and should be overcome.

Enigma disclosures

From Professor E. R. Vincent
Sir, It is a relief to those who worked at Bletchley Park during the war to learn from your report in The Times of October 13 that the veil of enforced secrecy is at last being lifted. Much of the work done at Bletchley Park is incorrect and ultra-misleading has been published in various books.

One curious fact that should be known is that HM Government should have had no difficulty in learning the basic principles of the German Enigma machine. The Chief of the German Air Staff, General Adolf Hitler, visited the Enigma machine at Bletchley Park in 1945. He was accompanied by a complete specification (with diagrams) with the British Patents Office before the war. This is not to belittle the reported efforts of Polish, French or British agents who, no doubt at great risk, pursued the Enigma machine—but it is a fact.

From Mr Ewen E. S. Montagu, QC
Sir, The interesting news in your article (October 13) entitled "Enigma disclosures" will be changed by Enigma disclosures, although true to that heading, contains an important inconsistency as to what will actually be transferred to the Public Record Office.

One statement "The material will not appear in the raw condition in which code breakers transcribed intercepted signals. Rather it will take the form of appreciations and

Plea bargaining

From Mr Robert Hazell
Sir, Sir David Napley (October 12) defends the process of plea bargaining as one in which "those who are unquestionably guilty of criminal offences, manifestly capable of proof, are strongly but fairly persuaded to admit their guilt...".

a royal pardon. The private detective whose diligent research cleared their names (at a cost of £8,000) said that he knew of numerous similar cases; and one purpose of Baldwin and Conville's book was to try to establish the frequency with which this sort of injustice might occur.

From Mr Robert Woolcombe
Sir, I suspect that my late father was not unconnected with the "four previously reliable M16 sources" mentioned in your front page article (October 14). More than once he told me that he was taken by Sir Eyre Crowe for questioning by Ramsay MacDonald on the authenticity of the letter. My father was not taken into the Prime Minister's presence, but remained out of sight in an adjoining room with a communicating door, and the Prime Minister's questions were put to him by Crowe, who relayed back the substance of my father's answers. I have no idea what the questions were, my father never told me, but to the end of his life, whenever the Zinoviev Letter cropped up, he maintained that it was never a forgery.

From Mr John Aspinall
Sir, Lovers and protectors of wild animals throughout the world will be deeply shocked by the report published in your paper of October 14 that the heart of a chimpanzee has been callously transplanted into a sixty-year-old human male by Dr Christian Barnard at Groote Schuur Hospital in Cape Town yesterday.

Tobacco substitutes

From Sir David Nicolson
Sir, Lord Winstanley was quite right to ask some pertinent questions about NSM tobacco substitute in the article in your paper on October 12. However, his research seems to have overlooked not only some pertinent questions but some pertinent facts. Reumann does not use the NSM substitute. After researching all the substitute materials available to us we decided to use Cytrel which is produced by the Celanese Corporation of America.

total United Kingdom cigarette market. It took fifteen years to reach the 100 per cent mark, and the time both the media and trade believed they had no hope of establishing themselves in the market.

Chimpanzee transplant

There are, it is believed, between 50,000 and 100,000 chimps left in the world today. The population of our human cousins has swollen to nearly four billion so that there are about 60,000 of us for every single chimp left on earth. What a strange miscarriage of natural justice that a fellow hominid, a creature so closely related to ourselves that the Russians successfully fertilized a chimp ovum with human sperm, must forfeit its life to prolong that of an aging human for a few stolen years.

at worst reinforces the poor many doctors already have of law.

The age of eloquence

From Mr Gerald Gourette
Sir, Is there any significance attached to the fact that the speaker at the Labour Party conference was 92 years old, whereas the best speaker at the Conservative Party conference was 16?

BUSINESS TRAVEL

a Special Report



Gerry Greaves

Have you considered the effect a long car journey might have on the driver?

A medical research team at Leeds University has carried out a series of scientific tests* in which they examined the comparative stresses and strains on the heart of travelling by train and driving a car.

The heartbeats of twenty four businessmen were carefully monitored. Twelve of them had a history of heart trouble, twelve were in normal health.

Each was given two tests.

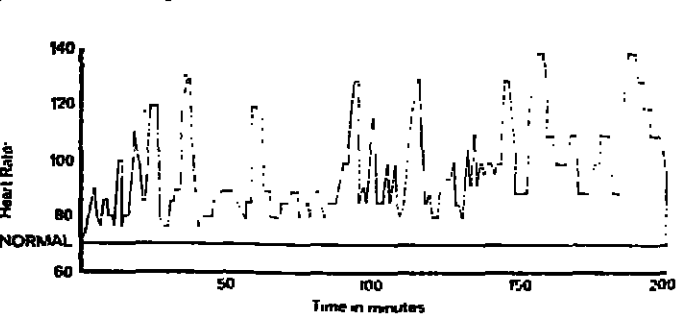
Test one took place in a car travelling on the motorway between

at high speeds, even traffic jams.

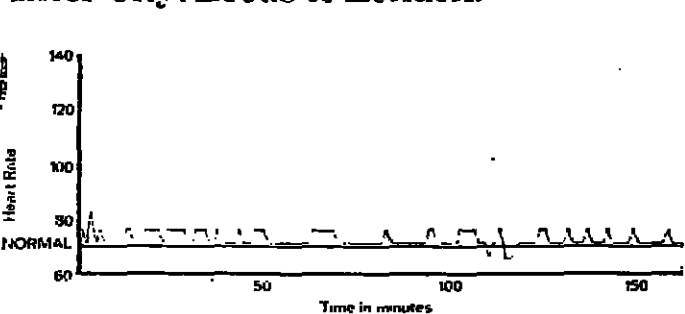
Peaks ranged from 110 to 140 beats per minute in the drivers in normal health. For those with heart trouble the peak ranged from 100 to 150.

Test two was conducted on the Leeds to London Inter-City service. Maximum heartbeat during the fast two hundred mile journey was a mere 80 beats a minute while most of the time it stayed at around 70. The average during the whole journey was just 72 beats a minute.

Motorway: Leeds to London.



Inter-City: Leeds to London.



Leeds and London. The hearts of all the drivers were sent racing by unexpected fog and rain, being overtaken without warning, overtaking

We've been telling you for years that Inter-City makes the going easy for businessmen.

Now you can see why.

Inter-City makes the going easy

*Source: New Perspectives in Beta Blockade, CIBA, 1972.

Cheaper by charter: it pays to shop around

by Patricia Tisdall

The large number of special low-cost air fares put on offer this year, from Sky-train to minimal accommodation packages, has added a new dimension to business travel. Widespread discounting has caused even the least economy-minded businessman to think again about paying the full fare for his "shopping around".

Previously, because there was no price competition between airlines, the businessman's choice depended only on timing and levels of service. Today most businessmen as well as leisure travellers are aware that a careful choice of tickets can yield savings of 50 per cent or more off the standard fare. Unfortunately the appalling complexity of the various fares is likely to deter all except the most persistent would-be traveller.

No fewer than 30 different fares, including six categories of discounts, were, for instance, unearthed by the Airline Users Committee last year for scheduled airline travel from London to Malaga. Even on the simplest routes such as London to Frankfurt the committee found four standard fare structures: first class, economy class, public excursion and inclusive tour, and six special fare prices including "spouse", student and common interest group rates.

Each of the various fare structures carry a set of conditions. The public excursion rate on the London to Frankfurt run, for example, is valid only at weekends. Similar restrictions, which effectively cut down the flexibility of use, apply to most other cheap tickets but vary according to the airline, the routine and time of use.

Information even from the airlines concerned is sparse and the business traveller, unless he is a frequent user of a particular route, has little chance of finding the cheapest ticket without outside help.

A large number of travel agents specializing in serving businessmen are now adding cost savings to the convenience of the service

they offer. Usually the best savings can be achieved by incorporating hotel bookings and possibly car hire into a tailor-made package of the type familiar to holiday-makers, with the advantage that the cost can include incidentals such as airport transfers and taxes.

Lynn Poly, for example, this summer advertised savings ranging from £35 on a week's stay in New York to about £80 on a 14-night Far East trip taking in Japan, Bangkok and Hong Kong under its Fair Deal scheme.

Other travel agents dealing with businessmen concentrate on more traditional services such as obtaining visas and passports and delivering tickets. Thomas Cook, for example, advertises a 24-hour service which ranges from arranging air tickets to supplying travellers' cheques and foreign currency.

It is for the user to decide which type of agency service he requires and to see that he gets it. Business Traveller says it is a constant source of surprise that few companies select travel agents, as they do advertising agencies, by inviting rival agents to make presentations in competing against one another and then keeping the winner up to the mark by inviting him to reapply for the account every three years or so.

However, it adds that "we are still living in the era in which some British companies spending over £100,000 a year on travel don't even appoint a single agent to handle their business, leaving it to individual executives or more usually their secretaries to book through any agent who comes to mind".

The answer to this apparent lethargy lies in motivation. The business executive, travelling on expenses paid by his employer, is not likely to feel that he can justify several hours or even days of his expensive time being spent on searching out a cheap fare where, in any case, the attached conditions may prove to be unacceptable.

Equally, the travel agent is paid through commission based on the value of his sales. Unless there is an

outside spur he is equally unlikely to opt for economy fares rather than convenience.

Nevertheless, a great many businessmen are deliberately seeking out cheaper fares. It is claimed, for example, that sales representatives travelling from North America represent 25 per cent of some chartered aircraft and that this is likely to grow to 40 per cent in the near future.

For during the same time as a revolution in fare structures has taken place, there has also been a change in the grade of business traveller. At one time, only top-level board directors went abroad on business to meet their peers in other countries. Today improved frequency of scheduled flights, and the elimination of the requirement for many resident jobs concerned, for example, with the maintenance of plant and machinery.

Companies which might previously have found it easier either to employ foreign nationals or to move their own men on a semi-permanent basis can now meet requirements from head office using more frequent travel.

With the shift of travellers to middle executives and blue collar workers has come the transition of the business traveller from the leisurely first class compartments into economy or tourist class. For prolonged business trips, especially during a period of intense pressure on discretionary incomes, many business travellers are also seeking to combine leisure with business either by taking their wives or by extending their trip, or a combination of both.

In such cases part of the expense is paid for by the firm and part from the employee's own pocket. Here there is a particular search for the available savings on fares and other expenses.

However, probably the vast majority of businessmen, while they are aware that cheaper fares exist, find that the difficulties of first finding out about them, and second of meeting the special requirements, are too great and they end up by paying at the full rate. At the same

time, knowing that they may be sitting beside someone on the same aircraft who may have paid a fraction of the standard fare they feel intensely dissatisfied.

To combat the undoubtedly entirely natural resentment the solution proposed by the Airline Users Committee was for the establishment of a special business class on scheduled services. Full fare-paying passengers would then be segregated, say, in a specially designated block of seats within the low-class cabin.

Such travellers, once identified, could also be given other amenities such as extra seat room or hot food instead of a lunch box, or a complimentary drink. Although this is not an AUC recommendation, for special check-in and baggage collection facilities to be made available to the businessman who is more likely to be short of time than the leisure traveller.

However, before adopting the belief that the full fare-paying businessman is, in fact, subsidizing the cheaper traveller, it is worth looking at some airline economics recently uncovered in a joint survey by British Airways and the Civil Aviation Authority. The cost of giving the full fare-paying flexibility he enjoys in being able, for example, to cancel or alter reservations at the last minute without extra cost is very high indeed. The survey concluded that ancillary costs can amount to five times more than the cost of the flight itself.

Of some routes it may be more profitable for an airline to carry holidaymakers who are prepared to commit firmly to itineraries, and to buy non-refundable tickets well in advance at a fraction of the price of the erratic full fare payer.

Economy minded businessmen would do well to quantify how valuable the flexibility is in cash terms. Already it is the constant complaint of travel agents that they are not given sufficient notice of trips to arrange the best fares for their clients. Given sufficient evidence that preplanning is possible, airlines might adjust their standard fares accordingly.

Straining to take the train

by Michael Bailey

Trains have been one of the businessman's favourite forms of domestic travel for as long as there have been railways and businessmen. Provided the train takes you where you want to go, when you want to go, at a price you are prepared to pay, the attractions of rail travel at its best are many. It provides a comfortable seat, a pleasant setting, room to talk about in detail, think, chat, snooze, or watch the passing countryside.

Meals are provided, sleeping accommodation if required and attentive staff to see to the traveller's needs. None of the competing modes provides such a range of amenities.

In Britain, there is an additional attraction. Nature has favoured the railways by making this island just the right size for rail travel with no more than 250 miles between most of the main centres of population. With few exceptions, this means a train journey short enough to be done between meals, and to permit out and back in a day.

If Britain is a natural market for business travel by rail, success in it depends, however, on the railways achieving the standards that are possible: in speed, price, quality, and reliability. It has to be admitted they have not always succeeded.

For many years after the last war, plagued by fuel scarcity, poor staff morale, and inadequate investment in new trains and other

equipment, British Rail's standards were patchy. To say the least. Trains were often dirty, noisy, and uncomfortable. Inter-City journey times were being steadily overhauled by the growth in internal air services and by improved travel times by road as the motorway network extended.

During the past decade, and especially during the past three years, there has been radical improvement in most of these areas. Modern rolling stock on most Inter-City routes is smooth and quiet, often with air-conditioning. Speeds have risen steadily in the 1970s, notably on the routes of the 125-mph high-speed train (HST) has been introduced.

Between London and Bristol, for example, the journey time has improved from 1 hr 47 min to 1 hr 25 min; London to Cardiff from 2 hr 16 min to 1 hr 45 min. From next year London to Leeds will be cut from 2 hr 31 min to 2 hr 11 min; London to Newcastle from 3 hr 33 min to 2 hr 55 min; and London to Edinburgh from 5 hr 30 min to 4 hr 30 min.

This is particularly important on the longer journeys such as London to Edinburgh and Glasgow. On the latter route the air shuttle service has captured twice the traffic of the railways, though the shuttle fare of £23 (£20 from November 1) is higher than the first class rail fare of £24. This is because the city-centre to centre journey time is only 30 minutes, and a half hour by air, compared with five and a half hours by rail; no great a disparity to the businessman of today whose time is money.

The introduction of the 155-mph Advanced Passenger Train in 1979 cutting the rail journey time to four and a half hours for 400 miles, will therefore be of crucial importance.

Air times are unlikely to shorten much more by faster aircraft in these ecological days, and the disparity in fares should not be greatly reduced. So it will be a straight choice between the speed of air, and the comfort and convenience of the train taking an hour longer.

Comfort, frequency, and punctuality will be essential in the choice between the two. With those qualities, there is every chance that they will, provided price is competitive too.

Price is probably one of the main reasons why British Rail's Inter-City traffic after many years of steady growth has faltered over the past three years. Rail fares rose by about 50 per cent in 1975 and since then first-class travel, of which most is business traffic, has fallen by more than 10 per cent.

While some of this traffic loss can be attributed to the low state of the economy and business activity, there can be little doubt that the measures on the part of British Rail to argue quite legitimately that allowing 12p a mile for the cost of car travel, it is still cheaper to send a man by rail, without taking into account such factors as the absence of stress and fatigue by rail and the ability to work en route; Birmingham to London return, for example, works out at about £15 return by rail compared with £26 by car.

Increasingly, however, firms have been pre-arranging car-loads, especially where one man needs to travel by car anyway, and the answer comes out very differently where four people are travelling: more than £60 by rail compared with less than £30 by car. Few people would regard this as a desirable form of business travel, however, and with more modest rises in rail fares over the past 18 months, and sharp increases in the cost of motoring, it is not surprising that the loss is being made good.

Another problem from which British Rail's business traffic is suffering severely is shortcomings in the train service. In the wake of staff reorganization, for many Inter-City trains are leaving without the catering facilities, or the usual complimentary substitutes for the advertised service; and urgent studies are being carried out so passengers are not inconvenienced.

First-class travel constitutes about a tenth of British Rail's total passenger mileage of about 180,000m a year, and about a quarter of total passenger revenue of £1,000m a year. Provided British Rail can maintain and improve its standard of excellence, there seems little doubt that it will thrive and prosper in the future, to the benefit of both the railway and the business community.

The author is Transport Correspondent, The Times.

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Price war in the air

by Arthur Reed

The passengers on the inaugural Laker Skytrain service from Gatwick airport to New York included a number of businessmen taking advantage of the £59 single fare.

They fell into two main classes: those running their own small enterprises who were going to seek orders in the United States and who would not have been travelling had it not been for the low cost; and those who were employees of small or medium-sized businesses, off to carry out maintenance on machinery which their companies had sold in the United States. Normally they would have gone on a more expensive scheduled flight, but on this occasion they were instructed to try Laker.

One of the drawbacks to a business house of this type of travel is that there is no guarantee of a seat until the day of travel.

Bookings open at 4 am each day for that day's flights, but businessmen are already discovering that even this short time can be used to advantage.

One business based at

Crawley, Sussex to which I spoke asked its employees who are due to make a trip to New York to call in at the Laker picket desk at Gatwick airport on their way to work in the morning. If there are still tickets they buy one, work at their desk until after lunch, and then catch the 5.30 pm departure.

A senior executive of the company said: "The disadvantages are obvious, in that you can never be certain that your man will get away on the day you want him to, and this can cause problems with appointments over the other side."

"But we are finding that Laker has spare seats on most days. The advantages are that I am now able to send twice as many people on trips to the United States as in the past on the same travel budget."

Several companies based in Europe have already carried out cost exercises comparing travel between their countries and New York by direct flight, and by sending their workers to Britain by train and boat and then by Skytrain.

For most it is working out more cheaply to use Skytrain, and the time of the employees involved,

such as ships' crews, is not vital.

British Airways, Pan-Am, Trans World, El Al, Air India and Iranair, the six International Air Transport Association carriers on the North Atlantic, are all countering Skytrain with standby fares, but early experience has been that their allocation of these cheap seats on their normal scheduled flights was often exhausted by the middle of the week.

British Airways has introduced an executive cabin on its Boeing 747 jumbo jets on most routes, taking up a suggestion of the Airline Users' Committee. This is available to travellers buying full-fare economy tickets who have to ask for a place in it when they make their booking.

Situated immediately behind the first-class cabin, the cabin provides a haven of peace for the businessman who wants to work, or just to relax, on the flight, free from children and in-flight films.

British Airways promises a more restful atmosphere, with a quicker food and beverage service than in the main economy cabin. With such a facility even at a higher price for the trip

than Laker, the airline could go some way towards combating the advantages which the Skytrain has to offer.

For the businessman with travel plans which can be organised some time ahead, it is worth exploring the other cheap-fare deals which the Laker airlines now offer.

Budget fares are as cheap as standby and guarantee a seat—which standby does not. But the drawback with budget is that the traveller can only say which week he would like to travel, the airline then reserving the right to name the day.

Advance booking charter (ABC) and advance purchase excursion (APEX) are also a lot cheaper than the normal economy. On ABC you must make your booking two months ahead of travel, and you then go on a charter flight, although operated by one of the big Laker airlines. On APEX, the advance booking rule is similar, but travel is on a scheduled service.

On both fares the travel is on identical aircraft with identical in-flight service and standards of safety. But one big advantage of APEX is that for more destinations in North America are avail-

able, and there are more frequent flights.

At the opposite end of the fares scale, Concorde continues to draw a proportion of businessmen for whom time is important, and whose travel budget is not limited.

On the London-Washington Concorde route, British Airways is filling an average of 80 per cent of the seats available on every flight, and reckon that 71 per cent of these passengers are travelling on business. On the London-Bahrain route, 47 per cent of the seats are filled on average and 65 per cent of the passengers are on business.

If operating into New York the load factors (the proportion of seats on offer which are filled) will be even greater than on the London-Washington route. The business communities at either end of the route are expected to embrace the new service with enthusiasm.

The other five London-New York Laker carriers expect to lose some of their first-class traffic to British Airways, but in spite of this only Iranair will invest in Concorde to compete with the British airline.

The author is Air Correspondent, The Times.



After years of frustration, the Laker Skytrain is airborne. Rival airlines are offering counter-attractions to the traveller on a budget.

Those rewarding extras

by Margaret Stone

Business travel can be hell. Roads to the airport are crowded, there is an interminable delay at the airport, the stewardess is slow in bringing the drinks once you are on board, more delays when you arrive are crowned by staying in an hotel which is crummier than you had thought; and you are missing your wife and family. Yes, business travel can be hell.

Small wonder then that so many more executives are concerned to obtain the maximum number of travel "perks" they can possibly chalk up. What is more, perks not merely alleviate some of the discomforts of travelling but are also a useful weapon in offsetting some of the rigours of a pay policy, whether it be voluntary or involuntary.

There are snags here, of course, because the Inland Revenue has its eye fixed firmly on fringe benefits. But with care travel perks can be rewarding without being financially embarrassing.

One way in which a company can make travelling more endurable for its representatives is to improve the mode of travel. It is hard to give precise figures but several airlines report that more and more British business travellers are switching to first-class travel. It is not hard to find the reason why: if you cannot pay the super-salesman more, you can at least make his life in transit more comfortable.

The move to first-class airline travel might bring more difficulties than originally envisaged. All the experts claim that the food and service in first-class cabins differ much more widely than they do in the tourist/economy section of the aircraft. So the boss's job is to keep

this upgraded salesman happy by choosing the airline with the best menu as well as the prettiest stewardesses.

In a similar vein, and again difficult to quantify, is the attitude of companies to hotel accommodation. More British executives seem to be allowed to stay in better hotels than was the case before.

Another perk for frequent air travellers is membership of an "executive travel" scheme or club organized by the leading international carriers. For a modest subscription (paid for by the company in most cases) British travellers can belong to exclusive clubs such as Pan-Am's Clipper Clubs or TWA's Ambassador Clubs escape from the hurly-burly of the main airport lounge. They can disappear into the more civilized club-room for free refreshments (usually alcoholic) and even a telephone or dictaphone for the enthusiast to carry on working until the last possible moment before departure.

The aspect of international business travel which is changing is the adventurousness of those organizing the annual sales conference or any other such corporate excursion. Long gone are the days of Blackpool, Scarborough or Harrogate and it appears that even the Costa del Sol or Majorca may be becoming old-hat. Agents specializing in that kind of package are increasingly trying to push their clients and their conferences off to more exotic places like Rio de Janeiro, New York and even the Caribbean, which is reported to be one of the best-selling incentive travel offers.

It is by now widely accepted that sales conferences, business seminars or any other opportunity which gets together members of a company in one spot for anything from a week-end to five days, are hot work, and that keeps the Inland Revenue happy, and half pleasure. It is for the company to make sure that the

second half is as well organized as the first if it wants its conferences to be a success.

The travel experts have several points to make about ensuring the success of a sales or incentive conference. They include making sure that the company picks up all the bills, not over-loading the time with organized functions and excursions, and ensuring that everyone gets identical rooms (otherwise jealousy is rife and everyone squabbles).

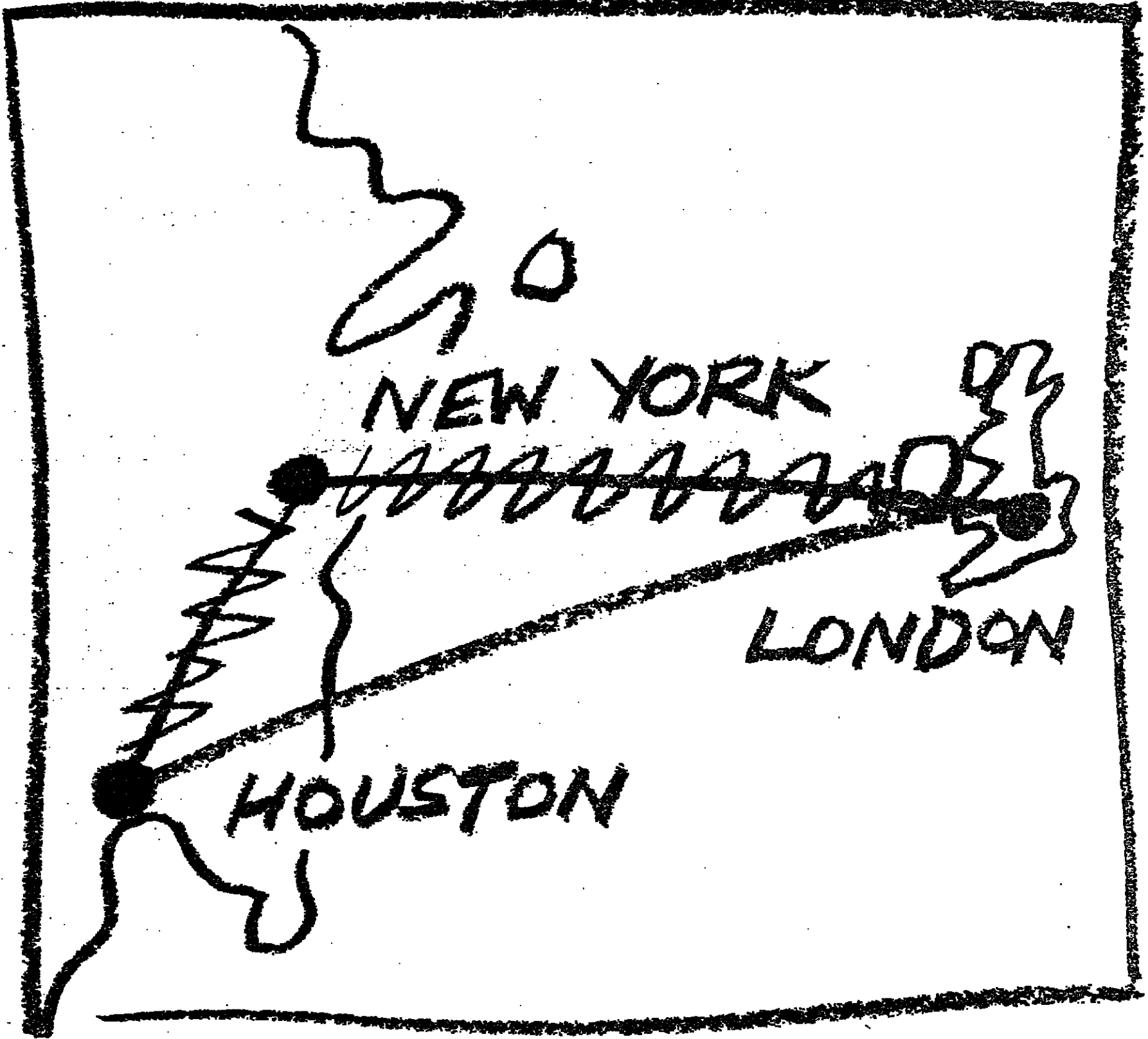
Attending an international sales conference will not put the participants out of pocket with the Inland Revenue, but what happens if you want to take your wife or mistress along? Her presence, if paid for by the company, is in the eyes of the Inland Revenue quite clearly a taxable benefit. But, as always, there are exceptions to that basic rule.

The best form of tax planning to keep your wife by your side in corners of the globe is to make sure that she works for you. In that case her travelling expenses, too, are tax deductible. If the Inland Revenue is going to take this suggestion seriously it will want proper evidence that the working wife really is a working wife and is genuinely on the company payroll.

However, you may not want that full-time commitment, nor may she. The alternative way of getting your wife to accompany you abroad tax-free is to prove that your wife is a hostess or secretary.

The fact that some hostesses appear to be blonde and at least 15 years younger than their husbands does not endear itself to the Inland Revenue. It is unconcerned with the individual's morals but very concerned to make sure that the travelling companion, if she is to be tax-deductible, is genuinely there to work.

The author is Personal Investment and Finance Editor, The Times.



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Prevention is better than cure

by Tony Smith

Foreign travel has become so easy in the past 20 years that few people realize that there are still health hazards for anyone leaving the familiarity of their own country.

International hotels may look the same the world over, but once away from the New York-London-Paris axis their convenience may give a false sense of security. Leningrad, Cairo, Accra and Bangkok all have exotic diseases lying in wait for the unsuspecting traveller. The risks should not be exaggerated: only a few hundred of the millions of Britons who go abroad each year become seriously ill, but the crucial feature of the diseases they catch is that they are preventable—if only adequate precautions are taken.

Malaria is the most common of the tropical diseases, and each year several thousand cases are reported in people returning to Europe from Africa and Asia. About one quarter of the Britons affected in recent years have had the dangerous, malignant form of the disease and some have died.

The danger lies in associating malaria with swamps and jungles; in fact the disease has been contracted by travellers who spent only an hour or so during a refuelling stop on a flight from London to Australia. A bite from an infected mosquito is

enough, and this may occur on a hotel terrace or in a city street.

For practical purposes malaria may be assumed to be a risk in any country in Africa (including its Mediterranean coast), in central and tropical South America, in India and Pakistan, and in the Far East, Australia and the United States are clear; so are Israel, Mauritius and the Seychelles.

Protection is easy: all that is needed is for the traveller to take one of the anti-malarial drugs daily for a few days before departure, during the trip and for six to eight weeks after his or her return to Britain. Someone flying to, say, Nigeria for a weekend meeting may find such a schedule a nuisance; they should reflect that it is routine in the services and in many large companies.

What about other notorious infections such as cholera and typhoid? These are diseases of poor sanitation and doubtful water supplies, and their prevalence in nineteenth-century Europe led to wise travellers insisting on bottled mineral water. Nowadays there are still occasional outbreaks of enteric fevers in the summer around the Mediterranean, while east of Athens they are ubiquitous.

Cholera has returned to the Middle East this year and seems likely to remain a threat for a long time yet. Advice here depends on the plans of the traveller: but

anyone likely to eat or drink in small towns or at railway stations would be advised to be immunized against both typhoid and (this year) cholera. All travellers outside or inside Britain should be immunized against polio, myelitis, diphtheria, and tetanus. Furthermore, outside Western Europe tap water, fresh fruit, ice cream, and any other contaminable food should be avoided except in top-class restaurants and hotels.

Disease is not the only hazard of foreign travel, however. Man is an adaptable animal, but he needs time to adjust to large differences in temperature and humidity.

Anyone travelling from the cool of a British autumn to the heat of a South American spring will find physical activity such as tennis very exhausting for about a week, and no amount of self-medication with salt and water mixtures can speed the process of acclimatization.

Similarly, the skin takes 48 hours to begin to darken in response to sunlight, and over-exposure on the first day inevitably leads to burning. Less familiar is the need to acclimatize to height, but now that Mount Kenya and Katmandu are on the international circuit it is important to know that over 12,000ft the lungs may not be able to cope with physical exertion, and anyone who insists on pushing on to greater heights may develop

fatal pulmonary oedema.

Whatever the social pressures, anyone who has flown to a radically different climate should insist on keeping physical activity to a minimum for the first few days.

How important, however, is jet lag? Do businessmen who cross the Atlantic really become mentally disturbed by the experience as is sometimes suggested? The explanation for the stories told of such disorientation is that it is usually due to a combination of factors. First, individuals vary enormously in their biological responsiveness and flexibility.

Some of us are owls who spend the mornings half asleep and only function flat-out after lunch; others are larks, who get their best work done before breakfast and go to sleep in the evening when the owls are out looking for some action.

Extreme examples of either pattern may find any change in routine very unsettling—and, for example, be unable to tolerate working night and day shift rota. Such individuals may find a time-zone difference of four hours very upsetting; others may take it in their stride.

If the trip is only for a few days it may be possible for the visitor to stay on Greenwich time, eating and sleeping to fit in with his or her body rhythms rather than the social conventions at the destination—a practice common in regular travellers such as aircrew.

A second factor is the

fatigue caused by travel. Long journeys in narrow-bodied aircraft can be very uncomfortable, and indeed may precipitate thrombosis in the veins in the legs. The air-conditioning and pressurization makes the air in the cabin dry, and the combination of boredom, discomfort and anxiety may encourage excess drinking of alcohol. In fact anyone who wants to arrive at his destination alert and fresh is well advised to eat very little and to drink plenty of fluids but no alcohol.

Exotic diseases and jet lag may be the fashionable hazards—and they do, indeed, cause problems—but the dangers that are important in practical terms are the familiar ones.

The diseases that cause the most trouble in returning travellers are gonorrhoea and the other sexually-transmitted infections; the most common for hospital admission while abroad is a traffic accident; only too often attributed (at least in part) to a combination of fatigue and alcohol.

Deviation from routine is tiring, and non-stop exposure to unfamiliar faces, strange food, a difficult language, and different customs must be exhausting. The experienced traveller takes every opportunity to sleep and lives it down rather than up.

Dr Smith is Medical Correspondent, The Times.

by Patrick O'Leary

W. S. Gilbert used to say that although Saturday afternoon came round regularly, it always seemed to catch his local train service unprepared. Much the same could be said of business trips and me.

I am a hardened traveller, going abroad once a year; in really hectic times I have been known to take two trips in one year. Yet each occasion comes as something of a shock, and invariably finds my wardrobe lacking the right clothes for monsoon time in Mauritius, a windy day in Winnipeg, or whatever wherever.

It is chastening to think of generations of journalists who have maintained an overnight bag, always packed with just enough clothing and toiletries to get them through an assignment in the Balkans or a coronation in Sarawak. One colleague survived nonchalantly what would seem the ultimate disaster—two weeks in Khartoum while his baggage was in the United States.

My own excursions involve preliminary shopping which is somehow more complicated than it ought to be. A young man in a well-known hater's assured me once that none of their many branches would have a Panama in stock in mid-winter. It seemed an insular attitude to adopt at the

Topees are back in demand

heart of what only a short time ago was an empire on which the sun never set.

I have never risked setting out ill-equipped in the hope of picking up the right gear on arrival. However, men who know the Far East say it is true that a little tailor round the corner in Hongkong will run up a good suit and fit it in two to three days.

All this at reasonable prices, although the knowledgeable claim Seoul offers the same service a little cheaper. In South Korea there are also shops near American bases which do a useful line in thick alpaca coats.

My own advice to the intending traveller is of the simplest kind. First, find out whether you are going to a hot or cold country, remembering that the same place can be both, varying with the time of year or even time of day. Next choose a size of suit and boots slightly too big for you.

Most of your time will be spent sitting in aircraft, so sturdy recognizable in sea-sucker suits which, in the words of Frank Muir, in demand.

sion is essential. Also a larger suit accommodates more and bigger pockets, on required to take the rising tide of documents and pieces of plastic card with which it is unwise to venture abroad.

Careful research is desirable to decide how formal your travelling wardrobe needs to be. Someone with up-to-date experience tells me the Chinese, although themselves so uniformly dressed, do not object to some informality in visitors, whereas emerging countries expect the dark suit and white collar.

Monte Carlo, it might be thought, would encourage rakish attire. But when I had thoughts of cutting a dash in black trousers and casual coloured jacket, I found out just in time what *terrore sombre* on dinner invitations meant.

Fortunately, sartorial elegance is not expected of journalists. One who is too well groomed is liable to be denounced as an impostor.

Most of us would be in the firm's business: after spent sitting in aircraft, so sturdy recognizable in sea-sucker suits which, in the words of Frank Muir, in demand.

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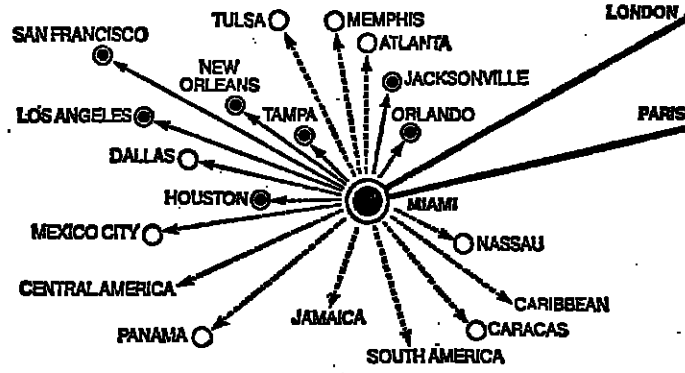
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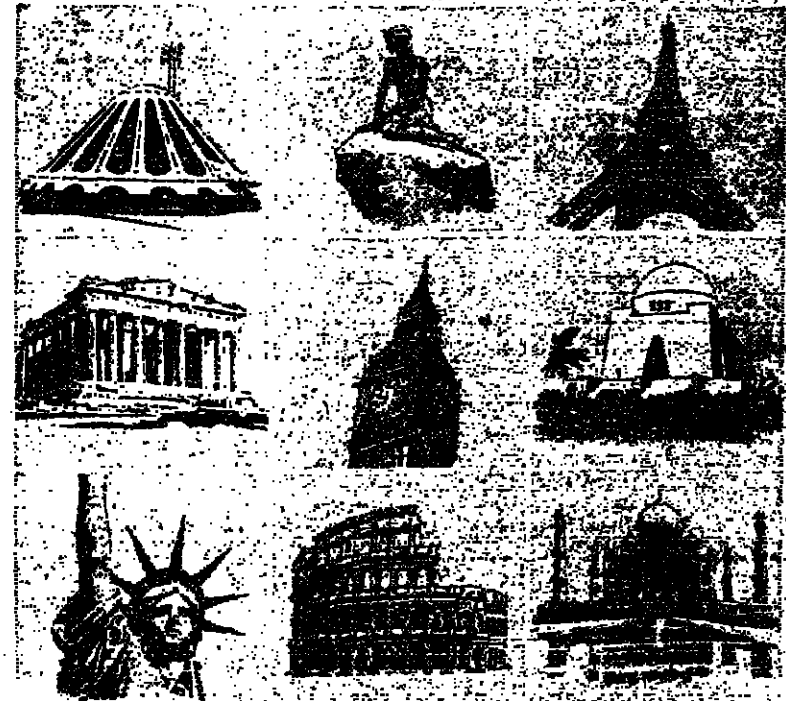


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EEC ministers set target of 1pc growth increase to save jobs

From Michael Horneby

Luxembourg, Oct 17

EEC Finance Ministers agreed here today on a new target for the Community's real economic growth rate next year of between 4 and 4.5 per cent. Without such action, the 1978 growth rate is expected to be 3.5 per cent, compared with 2.5 to 3 per cent this year.

Speaking to journalists after the meeting, Mr Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said there was a general agreement that without some extra job-creating growth "the pressure for protectionism could become dangerously strong".

There would also be little chance of increasing investment, and a risk of a further economic downturn in 1979.

Mr Gaston Geens, the Belgian Finance Minister, who presided over today's meeting, said the extra 1 per cent of growth should be generated by stimulating domestic demand, although it was accepted that the room for manoeuvre would vary from country to country.

Any action taken would also have to be coordinated with non-EEC countries.

A "key element" in assessing the EEC's chances of meeting the new growth target would be the policy of the West German Government, Mr Geens said. During the meeting, Mr Hans Apel, the German Finance Minister, indicated that his government was planning to boost the inflationary pressure in the economy.

Mr Healey told his colleagues that Britain's improved financial situation would enable it to make a contribution to the overall strategy within the limits agreed with the Community.

According to Mr Healey, the general view was that Belgium and Holland should do more to stimulate economic activity.

Mr Healey said that the nine agreed that besides the action to be taken by the Commission, the Commission would take action against them. This would include the Commission's minimum price regime which forms part of the anti-crisis measures introduced at the beginning of this year in an effort to stabilize the steel industry.

Community officials have undertaken spot checks among EEC steel producers in the past few months—particularly in relation to prices for reinforcing bars (rebar). Recently, they visited a number of British private sector steelmakers, including Sheerness Steel and GKN.

Earlier, the British Steel Corporation was asked to provide details of its price structure.

The price investigations have been prompted by allegations by other European producers against the Italian Brescia private sector steelmakers.

It is claimed that their rebar prices on exports to other parts of Europe—particularly Germany and France—have been between 20 and 30 per cent below the EEC's minimum price level.

Last week Viscount Emswiler, the EEC Commissioner for Industry, spent several hours discussing the grievances of other European producers with representatives of Brescia in Rome.

He warned them that unless

they agreed to lift their prices to the EEC minimum levels the Commission would take action against them. This would include the Commission's minimum price regime which forms part of the anti-crisis measures introduced at the beginning of this year in an effort to stabilize the steel industry.

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Varley hint of restructured motor group as Rover men back bargaining reforms Jones union stewards in split on Leyland vote

By R. W. Shakespeare

A group of 11 senior shop stewards from Leyland's Rover plant in the Midlands have decided to defy the policy of the leadership of their union, the Transport and General Workers', and its more protectionist shop stewards from other car plants, by voting in favour of the company's wage negotiating and labour relations reforms at a crucial meeting in London today.

Mr Joe Harris, the senior TGWU convenor in the Rover plant at Solihull, said last night he was convinced that he and the rest of the Rover senior stewards would be representing the wishes and the best interests of their rank-and-file members by backing the company plan, which Leyland has said is essential to meet the Government's ultimatum on conditions necessary for further state aid.

"It has been made perfectly clear," he said, "that failure to meet production levels has been the result of disputes, and that to a large extent these have had their roots on questions of pay parity and grading."

"If we hope to achieve wages parity and to sort out wage grades in Leyland, then centralized bargaining is the only way it can be done."

The decision represents the first public split in the ranks of TGWU national officials and stewards who had expressed solid opposition to Leyland's eleventh-hour bid to get its proposals

passed at today's meeting of 250 senior shop stewards from all car plants. All but one of the remaining unions in the car plants—the sheet metal workers—have already agreed to support the proposals which, apart from the question of centralized wage bargaining cover, a general 10 per cent wage increase from next month, pay parity between the plants phased in over the next two years, an incentive scheme based on self-financing productivity and improved sick pay and lay-off pay.

At the weekend Mr Pat Lowry, British Leyland personnel director, made it clear that without the agreement of the stewards the company could not possibly go to the Government and claim that its conditions for further support had been met.

It has been widely accepted that the consequence of this would almost certainly be a decision by the Department of Industry to break the company up into smaller units.

The decision by the 11 Rover stewards has clearly been dictated by their interpretation of shop floor opinion and a calculation that they must bow to this rather than to the pressure by other TGWU stewards seeking to preserve their power base through a continuation of plant bargaining.

The Board had called for a dramatic improvement. If this were not forthcoming the NEB would come back to the Government, and if it made recommendations for changes in the structure of the com-

pany "then we shall have to consider them". The Government and the British people had kept faith with British Leyland to the tune of £350m of financial support. But since the Government stepped in to rescue the group, its share of the home market for cars had fallen disastrously.

It was "a national disgrace" that the importers' share had risen to over 50 per cent.

There was better news last night of strikes which had stopped production of five Leyland models and made over 14,000 men idle.

At Longbridge, a meeting of 800 sheet metal workers decided to return to work immediately, and production of Allegros and Minis was able to resume. Paint shop employees on strike at Cowley agreed to reopen negotiations, and while these began Marina production was restarted.

Peter Waymark writes: Mr Derek Whitaker, managing director of Leyland Cars yesterday blamed over-manning and low productivity for the company's troubles. He said "our key problem is quite simply that we do not make enough cars". Mr Whitaker went on "the stories that customers do not want our products are simply not true. What is true, absolutely and tragically true, is that because of our own shortcomings we have consistently been unable to the cars into the show-

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rooms".

September lag in retail sales fuels call for early tax boost to spending

By Caroline Atkinson

Business is still not brisk in the shops despite a pick-up in sales during the summer from the low levels experienced in the winter.

In September the volume of retail trade slipped back a little, according to figures published yesterday by the Department of Trade.

These figures are only provisional and may well be revised later this month, but at the moment they can bring little cheer to ministers.

They will add to the mounting pressure on the Government to cut taxes before Christmas to put more money in people's pockets and boost the economy. It is now almost certain that there will be tax cuts in the autumn measures to improve the real economy, and possibly to relieve the upward pressure on the pound by relaxing exchange controls. But the measures are still conditional on weighty arguments—especially for the Ford workers—which are not too far above the Government's 10 per cent limit.

The volume of shop sales dropped by just under 1 per cent last month to 106.1 (1970=100) from 107.2 in August.

This is a further indication of the sluggish growth in the "real" economy, which has persisted this year despite the strong turnaround in Britain's financial health.

Pilkington to go ahead with £70m float glass plant

By Edward Townsend

Pilkington's sole producer of float glass, has decided to proceed with its plan to build a £70m float glass plant at St Helens, Merseyside. The investment is the largest in the company's history.

The project, which is likely to receive development area grants for up to 20 per cent of the total cost, was first announced in 1974. It was shelved the following year when Pilkington said £150m of investment was being postponed because of an "inflationary deterioration in trading conditions".

The new plant will employ 370 people drawn from this company's ageing sheet glass factory at St Helens, which is to be closed. The remaining 280 sheet glass jobs are to be phased out by transfers, natural wastage and voluntary redundancy.

Pilkington has faced competition in recent years from flat glass imports, although it still claims to supply about 80 per cent of the United Kingdom market.

RETAIL SALES

The following are the seasonally adjusted figures for retail sales released by the Department of Industry:

	Sales by volume index 1970=100 (est.)	Percentage change on same month in previous year	Sales by value index 1970=100 (est.)	Percentage change on same month in previous year
Sept	106.9	+4.9	+15	
Oct	106.1	+3.8	+16	
Nov	106.2	+1.5	+18	
Dec	106.3	+1.5	+18	
1977				
Jan	106.7	-2.1	+12	
Feb	105.7	-6.8	+15	
March	103.1	-11.8	+14	
April	103.4	-14.0	+12	
May	104.4	-12.7	+15	
June	103.8	-11.1	+14	
July	107.0	+4.3	+18	
Aug	107.2	+10.9	+18	
Sept	106.5	+12.1	+14	

Industry is still depressed, as shown by last week's figures for output in August.

There has been a definite improvement in retail sales in the past three months, but this is partly because of the comparison with the slump in sales in the three months March to June.

In the latest quarter salespick up

were 2.9 per cent up on the previous quarter in volume. But this is still almost 2 per cent below the year-ago level.

In the first nine months of this year the average volume of retail trade was about 3 per cent below the average over the whole of last year.

Government estimates for consumer spending made at the time of the spring Budget were clearly over optimistic. It now appears that people went on saving a fairly high proportion of their income in the first half of this year despite the squeeze on earnings as a result of pay restraint and inflation.

The boost to spending power from this summer's tax cuts has now fed through into pay packets. It has helped to increase retail sales, but not as much as had hoped.

Tourist spending has benefited shopkeepers in London and other tourist centres, but at about 1 per cent, it still accounts for only a small proportion of total sales.

Retail sales give a good guide to total consumer spending, as they cover nearly half of the total. The third quarter figures for total consumer expenditure will be published later this week.

Food shops have suffered the worst fall-off in business so far this year. But consumer durables are now beginning to

Rise of yen fails to cut Tokyo trade surplus

By Our Economics Staff

As the dollar plummeted against the foreign exchanges yesterday, the gold price rose to a 25-month high in London of \$161.125 an ounce at the close. At the same time Japan announced an increase in its trade surplus in September from \$292m to \$1,700m (about £965m).

Dollars were being sold heavily in all major centres yesterday in a continuation of the downward trend of the past two weeks. This began at the International Monetary Fund's annual meeting in Washington last month.

In contrast to last week, the dollar's fall was most marked against the European currencies rather than against the Japanese yen. This was probably because of intervention by the Japanese authorities who said over the weekend that they did not want to see the yen strengthen above 250 to the dollar.

The dollar closed down 1.1 pfennig from Friday against Deutsche mark at DM2.264, its lowest level against the West German currency for just over two months, when it fell briefly to DM2.247.

Also sharply up yesterday, the Swiss franc touched a record high of 2.266 to the dollar before closing at 2.265. It reached parity with the Deutsche mark during the day, although it closed slightly below this.

Despite official intervention to restrain the yen, it closed at a new high against the dollar of 252.5 yen, 45 points above last Friday's closing level of 248.

The Japanese currency has now appreciated by more than 5 per cent in effective trade-weighted terms since the beginning of September. But this has not yet had the desired

GOLD PRICE

dollars/oz
log scale
\$ effective depreciation since Smithsonian %
Sep Oct

effect of narrowing Japan's huge trade and current account surplus.

Provisional figures showed that the overall payments surplus rose to \$510m in September from \$292m in August and \$428m in July.

There was an increase in the visible trade balance from \$1,140m in August to \$1,700m last month, and in the West German current account from \$670m to \$1,400m. Exports were up by 12 per cent in dollar terms from a year ago and imports by only 3 per cent.

Yesterday saw another weakening in the Canadian dollar, which closed at its all-time low point against the United States dollar of 90.43 cents. But sterling rose to its best level for a year yesterday, closing up 43 points against the dollar at 1.773.

Gold is traditionally in demand in periods of currency instability and the recent weakness of the dollar has seen a steady increase in the gold price. Industrial and investment demand is combining to push up the price.

Financial Editor, page 27

Engineers' council attacks Acas ruling

By Derek Harris

The Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) has been condemned by the Council of Engineering Institutions for its refusal to recommend trade union recognition for the United Kingdom Association of Professional Engineers (UKAPE) at the Bedfordshire engineering company of W. H. Allen & Sons.

The Council of Engineering Institutions, umbrella body for Britain's chartered professional engineers, said it was "profoundly concerned" that Acas had taken a decision "totally opposed to the overwhelming weight of evidence submitted by the negotiating parties".

It said that 79 per cent of professional staff at W. H. Allen & Sons, Amalgamated Power Engineering, of Birmingham, wanted to be represented by UKAPE.

The CEI described the refusal as a serious threat to the interests not only of professional engineers but to all those to whom freedom of personal choice remains important.

The Acas decision has added fuel to the simmering row about representation in the engineering industry among several unions both within the TUC and those not affiliated, such as UKAPE.

The CEI, which in the past has urged professional engineers to join a trade union, has also recommended professional engineers to join only unions which preserve the individual's right to follow a professional code of conduct. An engineer might, for instance, decide to continue working during a strike for reasons of public safety.

The only TUC-affiliated union which the CEI so far has been willing to consider as possibly meeting this criterion is the Engineers' and Managers' Association.

Mothercare

everything for the mother-to-be and her baby... and children up to ten

INTERIM RESULTS
(26 weeks - unaudited)
24th Sept. 1977 25th Sept. 1977
£'000 £'000 Increase

Sales (excluding VAT)	1977	1976	Increase
UK	41,787	32,231	30%
Europe	4,908	3,560	38%
USA	3,248	—	—
	49,943	35,791	40%

Profit before Tax	1977	1976	Increase
UK	5,882	4,720	25%
Europe	574	396	45%
USA	(33)	—	—
	6,423	5,116	26%

Tax	1977	1976	Increase
UK	3,075	2,457	—
Europe	310	221	—
USA	—	—	—
	3,385	2,678	—
Profit after Tax	1977	1976	Increase
	3,038	2,438	25%

Tax on UK sourced profits has been calculated at 52% (1976 52%).

* The Directors have declared an interim dividend on the ordinary shares of 10p (1976 9p) which is equivalent to 15.42%.

* The accounts of the European subsidiaries are for 26 weeks to 27th August 1977 (26 weeks to 28th August 1976) and those of Mothercare Stores Inc. (USA) for 26 weeks to 2nd July 1977 (not consolidated 1976).

* Total exports for the six months amounted to £4,726,000 (1976 £3,855,000) of which £2,851,000 (1976 £1,836,000) were despatched to the group companies overseas.

* In the six months the two Leeds stores were resited into one larger unit bringing the total number in the UK to 168. Europe remained unchanged at 13 stores. In the USA one Mother-to-be store was closed as planned and 19 new Mothercare stores opened, bringing the total number of stores to 128.

Mothercare Limited
CHERRY TREE ROAD, WATFORD, HERTS, WD2 5SH
Austria · Denmark · The Netherlands
Norway · Sweden · Switzerland · United Kingdom
United States of America · West Germany

Bank of Ireland

announces that the following rates will apply from and including

18th October 1977

Base Lending Rate... 6% p.a.

Basic Interest Rate for deposits ... 3% p.a.

Bank of Ireland

How the markets moved

The Times index : 210.05 - 0.80
The FT index : 499.1 - 0.9

Rises

Doornfontein	46p to 328p
E. Driekont	42p to 730p
Elliot Group	23p to 21p
Gold	23p to 140p
Harmony	36p to 469p
Leslie	5p to 46p
Lever	2p to 18p
Lithium	63p to 544p
Xerox	52p to 566p

Falls

Bilton, Percy	5p to 150p
RTZ	7p to 267p
Lafore	5p to 97p
McLeod Russell	11p to 214p
Mothercare	12p to 134p

Equities rallied late. Gilt-edged stock lost ground. Dollar premium 34.25 per cent (effective rate 30.74 per cent). Sterling closed at 1.7723. The effective exchange rate index was unchanged at 62.4.

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THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia	1.63	1.58
Austria	30.25	28.15
Belgium	64.75	61.75
Canada	1.99	1.94
Denmark	11.12	10.72
Finland	5.71	5.31
France	8.32	8.02
Germany	4.20	3.98
Greece	64.75	62.25
Italy	1585.00	1530.00
Japan	470.00	445.00
Netherlands	4.46	4.26
Norway	8.58	8.28
Portugal	75.50	69.50
S. Africa	1.74	1.69
Spain	15.00	14.75
Sweden	8.75	8.40
Switzerland	4.20	3.98
US \$	1.87	1.75
Venezuela	37.35	35.00

Gold rose \$1.75 an ounce to \$160.125.

SDR's 1.17570 on Monday while SDR's 1.063113.

Commodities: Reuters' index was at 1484.2 (previous 1488.00).

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Gold in the limelight

Gold bugs had not been expecting bullion to move so effortlessly and quickly over the \$160 an ounce level, as it did yesterday, so soon after establishing a stable \$150 base. And this, of course, put gold shares in the limelight yesterday. With the market commencing to absorb the stage looks set for bullion to have another good run. Not only as good as 1972-74 but useful enough to put equity and commodity markets into the shade.

The precedent, of course, is 1974, when gold knocked on the \$200 door. But the real test then was inflation after the oil crisis while today the worry is that we are heading for recession into deeper recession. Hardly as backdrop for another boom in gold.

Still gold is the psychological metal par excellence where it is foolish to swim against the tide. So where does that leave gold shares? In recession months they have been seen catching up after the abysmal performance in the wake of the South African political upsets.

In a premium terms—and that is where the market really is—the index of gold shares against bullion has moved from a low of 0.55:1 to around 0.77:1 compared with the 1.75:1 level in the good old days when investors were discounting everything in gold.

With the market now demanding much higher yields to compensate for political uncertainties, the best that can be hoped for is a return to the 1:1 level which is only likely to be achieved—given the high cost of production in South African mines—when gold goes through \$180.

Although marginal mines—ERPM rose up to 432p yesterday—have again been in the vanguard of the rise, my advice is still to stay with the good quality mines with a premium flavour like the highly rated Rand, Vaal Reef or Hartley, especially as New York (now half the whole market) will not touch marginals.

Meanwhile, the quartermen opened yesterday with Gold Fields of South Africa's suits showing that it is the big operations West and East Driefontein that are pushing up profits on the back of increased production. It will not be until the December quarter that we see the marginals showing their leverage to the higher gold price now.

Self regulation

Accountants prepare the ground rules

Within the next few weeks Lord Cross of Chelsea should publish his eight-man committee's review of the disciplinary procedures of British accountancy bodies and make recommendations for improvement. It before he does the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales will take the bull by the horns by saying that it understands that self-regulation is going work, then justice must not only be done, but demonstrably seen to be done.

Next week, then, the Institute will beaming (and no doubt considerably embarrassing) firms and individual accountants involved in two Department of Trade inspectors' reports, and will also make a general statement on how it intends to treat future inspectors' reports.

For although the contents of the Cross review are a guarded secret no one within the profession seriously expects it to commend anything other than self-regulation.

This will be in accord with the view of the Department of Trade, which would much prefer the accountants to regulate themselves, even if Mr Hattersley, in referring to the Smith/Biggs merger, seems to be suggesting that The Stock Exchange can't. Much of the Cross review, therefore, is likely to be made up of recommendations of ways in which self-regulation can be seen to be effective.

But the problems in self-regulation are legion. First there is the difficulty that auditors may be accountable at law for their performance. Second, and perhaps more difficult, is the problem of judging where competence shades into negligence and negligence into dishonesty.

Questions of technical competence are clearly within the self-regulatory jurisdiction of the various institutes, but negligence and dishonesty are the province of the law, and the Department of Trade reports. It would be pointless self-regulation which merely censored accountants already criticized by the department's inspectors, but the law of libel still restricts other comments.

But many of the problems faced by self-

discipline would also be faced by discipline by a state imposed body. The profession is clearly girding itself to keep its valued independence, but the debate should begin, not end, with the publication of Cross.

Mothercare Expectations were too high

With Marks & Spencer reporting today and British Home Stores on Wednesday, the market expects Mothercare to open a "retailers' week" in fine style. However, it turned out that Mothercare's decision to build up stocks at the expense of cash was badly timed in the light of a depressed summer for consumer spending. Moreover, it was caught by a switch in sales from the high margin goods like coats and prams to cheaper lines, so it had to go in for some extensive price cutting to dispose of old season stocks.

But in spite of pressure on United Kingdom margins there is nothing much wrong with the 26 per cent growth in pretax profits to £5.4m and the market disappointment with the figures. The shares were 12p down at 184p yesterday—reflects nothing more significant than stale bull positions being unwound.

Unlike many high quality retail stocks, Mothercare reckons there is still plenty of potential left in the home market. It now operates 166 British stores and aims ultimately for between 225 to 250. Moreover, store size is increasing with the current average of 2,800 sq ft rising to around 4,000 sq ft.

Competition has so far made little impact. Boots has launched a "Baby Boots" range, but Mothercare claims the initial impact on local sales is soon dissipated and other retail giants have looked at the market but decided against an attempt in view of Mothercare's dominance.

But this may not be the case in Mothercare's newest market, the United States, where profits will not make any significant impact until 1980 and competition can be expected to be a good deal fiercer.

Mothercare should make profits of £15m this year, which suggest a p/e ratio of 14.4. This is at the lower end of the scale for comparable stocks and some improvement might be expected against the sector.



Having badly underperformed the life sector during the past three months, shares in Hambro Life, whose managing director is Mr Mark Weinberg (above), were stirred into action by yesterday's interim results jumping 10 per cent to 275p.

New annual premiums, which measured by initial commissions represent about 85 per cent of the total business, shaded down from £13.8m to £12.3m. But last year's interim figures were given an extraordinary boost by the sale of maximum allocation plans in the first quarter and the latest figure compares favourably with the £9.4m recorded in the previous half.

Meanwhile single premium business dropped from £29.4m to £22.5m reflecting Hambro's increased emphasis on long-term contract business.

Hambro reports that new business has been running significantly ahead of last year since June 30 and earlier outside expectations of a 20 per cent rise in profits to around £6.3m this year may prove conservative.

However, income considerations were by far the most important factor behind yesterday's rise. As a stock market newcomer Hambro has raised the interim payment by 20 per cent.

But the group's indication that it is prepared to drop last year's 1.75 times cover a shade now that the group is on a firm footing could mean at least a 25 per cent increase in the total dividend this year. If so the prospective yield even after yesterday's surge forward would be 10.5 per cent—almost double the sector average, and would help bring Hambro into line.

Ever since Labour came to power in 1974 the TUC has been working towards an economy planned from top to bottom with the unions involved at every point. From the beginning, they envisaged the interplay of industrial action at four levels.

From the National Economic Development Council (NEDC) and National Enterprise Board, and other joint bodies preparing overall plans at the top to the economic development committees and latterly the sector working parties formulating more detailed targets for individual industries, and identifying bottlenecks. Then to company level, where the final decisions are made and for which the Bullock report was to provide the basis, and to the shop floor where those decisions are implemented.

The network of committees for the two top levels is there, with a sector working parties (SWPs) set up since the beginning of last year to forward the strategy for industry which the government put to the NEDC two years ago. But so far, the machinery has not borne fruit.

The central aim has been to revitalize manufacturing industry, on which the achievement of trade union social and economic objectives depends, but output, investment, and employment have continued to fall and import penetration has gone on rising.

A great gap remains between what national, regional and sectional joint bodies find to be desirable, and what is actually done by the companies which create Britain's wealth.

So the TUC have called union and SWP representatives to a special conference, to be held at Congress House in a fortnight's time, to try to find out what is actually happening at

Eric Wigham

Britain's industrial plan: can the unions play a more effective role?

the lower levels of the planning machinery, and to consider with them what more the unions can do.

The TUC have long been disappointed that there are no shop stewards' committees or combined committees to deal with company plans, whether those activities are related to the work of individual unions, whether they can be done by research departments of the unions, to relieve the TUC's burden of briefing members, and whether they have actually raised industrial strategy questions.

The trade union officers and shop stewards at the conference will be asked how much they have been able to get SWPs to do, and what more can be done by individual companies to meet agreed sectoral policies. The TUC has the impression that employer-members have resisted this, and that the services of the unions have been used in a haphazard way with trade unionists and management in the companies.

They also believe that there has been government and management resistance to the establishment of codes of practice in consultation, for instance, before assistance is

given under the Industry Act. The TUC is thinking in terms of government sanctions to make companies conclude planning agreements.

They are not happy with present provision for the disclosure of company information to unions. The clauses in the Employment Protection Act may be too narrow for planning purposes, and the procedure for involving those in the Industry Act are so cumbersome that the TUC suspects they have never been invoked. They wonder if it would be useful to take a cluster of cases to the Government under the relevant part of the Act.

Ultimately, however, they regard legislation on industrial democracy, along the lines of the resolution adopted at the Trades Union Congress conference in September, as essential to the right to information on corporate plans as well as the right to participate in their formulation.

The resolution was a compromise one, calling for legislation which might result in trade union representation on company boards or, if they preferred it, in the extension of collective bargaining to provide

for wider trade union influence over policies. The argument for industrial democracy implicit in the coming conference is that it is necessary for effective national planning. It suggests that no purpose is served by generating about objectives at national level, or by drawing blueprints for the various sectors of industry unless there is machinery to induce companies to make the decisions necessary to give the blueprints substance.

The best way to do that, and to ensure that the decisions are fully carried out, it is suggested, is for unions representing the workers to participate in them. And the first step is for the unions themselves to set up company-wide organizations such as the joint representative committees which Bullock recommended.

It may seem strange to outside observers that in discussing a national plan designed to regenerate manufacturing industry, nothing is said about over-manning, or restrictive labour practices. The TUC may reply that once workers' representatives are sharing in the direction of the company they will become very conscious of the need to make the best use of manpower in a competitive world.

The TUC believes, as do others, that the benefits of North Sea oil, while they last, should be used to reconstruct the country's manufacturing base. They also believe that, to do this, it is necessary to have a plan that works. Their economic committee intend to see the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary of State for Industry when the conference is over, to ask for a clear statement as to what practical steps the Government intends to take.

Brazil feels the blast of world recession

Brazil's iron and steel export plans have received several severe blows during the past few months.

United States Steel has withdrawn from the \$3,300m development of the 18,000 million tons Carajás iron ore area. The company has withdrawn from one large steel plant, aimed at the export market, and are now dragging their feet on another. They have also announced that they are to cut their off-take of iron ore from Brazil by 20 per cent, while the EEC has placed quotas on imports of Brazilian pig iron, effectively freezing sales for the rest of the year.

The situation illustrates the obstacles facing the expansion plans of this important third world country, on which it hoped to rely both to pay off the existing debt, now standing at around \$30,000m, and to convince the market of its suitability for more loans.

It is also no longer clear that when the present world recession comes to an end, if it ever really does, Brazil will be able to sell abroad the quantities of steel and ore she had anticipated.

In May, US Steel announced that it was no longer interested in developing the giant Carajás reserves in association with CVRD, the state mining company, at least in the near term. The project was to cost \$3,300m and involved the building of a 500-mile electrified railway to the coast.

Some 22 million tons of ore would have to be sold each year, at \$16 a ton, for the project to be viable.

After US Steel withdrew, CVRD sought Europe and sounded out Japan in an almost desperate search for new partners. They visited Britain, Germany, Spain, Italy, Austria, France and even Romania, but their campaign ended in failure.

Now Senator Siqueira Ueki, Minister of Mines and Energy, says that Brazil will go it alone on a project of reduced scale, which is estimated to cost \$1,500m. The Brazilian fear is if ore from Carajás is not put on the market soon, it will not win customers in the foreseeable future. It remains to be seen whether the Brazilians will be able to undertake the project on their own.

So far, national enterprises have proved unwilling to tackle large industrial projects without massive overseas participation and technological help. A great deal of the Brazilian fear is accumulated, however, and there has to be a first time. The Brazilians note that there are 15 major ore extraction projects

now being developed round the world, 10 of them in Africa.

Although the Carajás ore has the advantages of proximity to the United States market, and is of a very high grade, it has to compete with Venezuela, where all the major investments have already been made. African, Indian and Australian ores

The bleak situation in the Brazilian steel industry has been caused partly by developed nations falling over themselves to lend funds and sell equipment and partly by government pressure. Patrick Knight reports

would be just as attractive to the Japanese, seen until now as major customers.

The Carajás project had been envisaged originally in conjunction with a Japanese financed 12 million tons steel plant at the Atlantic Ocean end of the railway, at the port of Itaquí, capable of berthing the deepest draught vessels. Japan Steel withdrew from that in 1976, and United States Steel turned down the offer of the state steel authority, Siderbras, to take its place.

Another important steel export project is to be the Tubarão plant in Espírito Santo. The first three million tons phase of this project will cost \$2,200m and work was due to start this year. A second phase would cost a further \$3,800m and also produce three million tons. Japanese participation had been agreed, along with Italian.

The Japanese have now said that in view of the poor prospects for selling steel on world markets, they will not invest any further, while Brazil had hoped for 90 per cent overseas financing. The Japanese are in no mood to increase their stake from 25 per cent to 35 per cent as the Brazilians would like.

Not only has Japan said she is no longer interested in the Tubarão project coming on stream in the early 1980s, she is also to reduce her off-take of ore from Brazil by 20 per cent. Japan is Brazil's chief ore customer, and bought about a third, worth some \$300m last year.

The cutback will cost Brazil \$60m in a full year. Brazil earned \$995m from ore exports in 1976, but sales are down by 16 per cent from 43 million tons in the first eight months of 1976, to 38 million tons in the first eight months of this year.

This latest decision comes after a cutback in orders from European customers ranging from 20 to 40 per cent. In addition the EEC is to freeze imports of Brazilian pig iron until the end of this year, and place a ceiling of 300,000 tons on imports next year.

Brazilian industry pays 26 per cent less for its iron than do Europeans. Brazil argues that her iron costs less because labour is cheaper and that charcoal, rather than coal, is used to smelt it. They further argue that transport costs are lower, which does not seem plausible.

The present bleak situation has been partly caused by financial institutions and equipment exporters in the developed countries falling over themselves to lend funds and sell equipment to countries such as Brazil. They seem never to have paused to consider how much steel would be available round the world, if all the plans came to fruition, and were to operate anywhere near full capacity.

Not that the developed countries are entirely to blame. There has been strong Brazilian government pressure for the steel sector to be built up quickly, so as to eliminate the need for imports of steel, which can cost more than is earned from ore sales, and for strategic independence.



Small beginnings in 1973 on the site of the Carajás iron ore project in Brazil: but will it ever come to maturity?

Hill Samuel Base Rate

Hill Samuel & Co Limited announce that with effect from Thursday, October 13, 1977, their Base Rate for lending will be reduced from 7 per cent to 6 per cent per annum.

Interest payable under the Bank's Demand Deposit Scheme on sums of £500 up to £100,000 will be at the rate of 3½ per cent per annum. Interest rates for larger amounts will be quoted on application.

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Business Diary: The two blanketeers • Coca-Cola's just deserts?

It takes some doing to keep sex out of a novel about a man who founded the family fortune on beds, but Richard Early has seen to it that in his first novel *Apprentice* (Routledge £4.50) there is nothing that would bring a blush into the cheek of the young person.

The apprentice of the title, you see, is Thomas Early, the founder of what is now the quoted Witney blanketeer-maker, Charles Early and Son.

Richard, the novelist is the five times great-grandson of Thomas.

Thomas was indeed early to blanket making. He started as an apprentice in 1689 when he was 14. Early the novelist came to fiction: this is his first novel and he's 70.

Richard, or Master Richard as he is still sometimes called in Witney, is honorary president of the family firm. He told Business Diary Editor Ross Davies yesterday that he decided to try a novel after collaborating with Alfred Plummer on the firm's history, *The Blanket Makers*.

This was published by Routledge in 1969, as part of the celebrations of the firm's 200th anniversary. Routledge published the novel under an avowedly "whereby the blanketeer takes some of the private life of the firm's history" and the end of his apprenticeship in 1676. Richard Early

licence where fiction takes over from fact. For instance, he sent on a fictional trip to the American colonies, and is even permitted an affair with a half-breed girl from Massachusetts called Lily—but no ripping of the bedsheets.

But the novel is the blanketeer's firm sells to the Hudson's Bay Company.

"I based all that on what I would do myself," the author said yesterday. "They're both very honourable—as a lot of people still are nowadays."

If we leave young Tom to be a young man ought to be on the right side of the blanket—we haven't seen the last of him. Richard Early is now half-way through the novel, to be called *Master Weaver*. In this our hero marries the real-life Wilfred Wild, if not the girl next door, then somebody a little nearer home.

Wilfred was the daughter of a Swindon fellmonger, the man who removes wool from the hides of sheep carcasses. Ah, the romance of business!

Sam Ayoub, the treasurer of the Coca-Cola Company, has been appointed president of a new concern, Coca-Cola Middle East, in a move which seems to point towards the company's removal from the Arab League boycott list. Georgia-based

in the Arab League had been for 10 years for supplying concentrate to an Israeli bottler. Although five Arab countries, Algeria, Mauritania, Morocco, Somalia and Tunisia continued to stake their thirst with Coke, the ban was enough to shut out the company from the world's fastest-growing market.

Enter Sam Ayoub, an Egyptian-born naturalized American, who last month concluded 13 months of negotiations with his former countrymen that could at worst give the company a foothold in the "central" Arab market and at best open up the lot.

Coca-Cola and the Egyptians have signed a deal in which the American firm will manage and take a half share in a new \$50m citrus fruit plantation at Ismailia—if Coca-Cola loses off the Egyptian blacklist, and presumably the Egyptians support the company's case when the league discusses the ban in Tunis next month.

Ayoub is giving up the treasurer's hat of the parent company to take on the new job, but will remain a vice-president. His new job will be to encourage local businessmen through-out the Arab countries to take out bottling franchises—and since the company mentions specific territories, among them Saudi Arabia, it must be presumed high hopes are held of Tunis.

Another reputation remains to be made within the company by the man who can get Coca-Cola off the book in India. First the Gandhi and then the Desai government have demanded that control of the Coca-Cola operation should be handed over to a new, Indian-controlled concern.



The Tongue Sands fort: what can it tell us?

to be made within the company by the man who can get Coca-Cola off the book in India. First the Gandhi and then the Desai government have demanded that control of the Coca-Cola operation should be handed over to a new, Indian-controlled concern.

Coca-Cola is resisting this demand, primarily because it would involve the handing over to the Indians of the secret formula for Coke which is imported in concentrate form. The company has offered to step up exports from India in compensation, but so far no formula that doesn't seem to be working.

But for its anti-aircraft guns, still trained heavenwards, the Second World War fort at

Tongue Sands in the Thames estuary might easily be mistaken for a small oil platform. Indeed, such is the similarity that the fort—four feet deep and sunk in the estuary—is now being used to test the performance of reinforced concrete in sea water.

The findings may influence the building and maintenance of oil production platforms in the North Sea.

The project at Tongue Sands is being carried out by the Taylor Woodrow Research Laboratory as part of Concrete and Oceans, a £300,000 research programme which the Construction Industry Research and Information Association is handling for the Department of the Environment.

Yesterday, Business Diary was unable to discover who built the Tongue Sands fort, which appears to have lasted well. Taylor Woodrow don't think they did, although they did contribute to Operation Phoenix, the construction of the Mulberry ports, during the war.

This involved producing large concrete units, each weighing 7,000 tons. Three times work was stopped by doodlebugs, once by a strike. The story is told of how on the latter occasion, Frank Taylor (now Sir Frank), founder of the company, visited the yard and ruined a black Homburg hat and his best black overcoat after pitching in and pouring concrete.

The battle now, of course, is to win oil platform contracts. Meanwhile, Taylor Woodrow, at least, is holding the fort.

The dollar opened mainly lower on Friday's closing levels against leading currencies in light, nervous trading, dealers said. Against the mark it dropped to about 2.2665 at one stage from Friday's 2.2747-57 but rallied slightly on reports of a shooting death aboard the hijacked German airliner, but the recovery was short-lived, they said—News agency London report.



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§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

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MAN IN WOOL
Pure new wool

[illegible]

